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VOL. XXX.—No. 357. MELBOURNE: SEPT. 20th, 1915. [SUBSCRIPTION: 10/- PER ANNUM POST FREE

PHAR
Stonye

THE AUSTRALASIAN Journal of Pharmacy

With which is Incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

TRADE MARK A.D. 1913

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Casein	3.0	1.0	1.12	1.0	1.5
Albumen	0.5	1.2	1.00	0.81	0.25
Carbohydrates ...	4.5	6.2	10.20	10.86	2.2
Mineral Matters ...	0 7	0.3	0.67	0.62	0.35
Water	88.3	87.8	83.68	83.65	95.0

(a) **The strength usually given to a young infant.**

NOTE.—It will be noticed that the proportion of **Casein in Cow's Milk is greatly in excess,** whilst the **Albumen and Lactose are deficient. No dilution of water can correct this.** When cream is added to diluted milk the proportion of fat can be made correct, **but the deficiency of Milk Albumen and Lactose is still further exaggerated.**

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Refer to Note issued by Dr. Robert Hutchison to face Page 470 of his book, Food and the Principles of Dietetics," Third Edition, Revised and Enlarged, Second Impression, 1913.

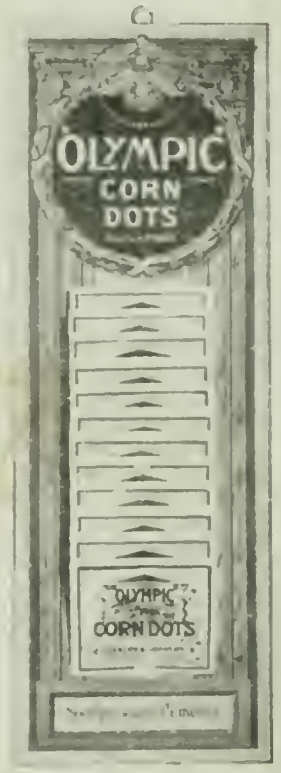
Index to Advts. Page 8.

CONFORMS TO THE N.S.W. PURE FOOD ACT.

'OLYMPIC'

TRADE MARK

CORN DOTS



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INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE.

Addis and Son, Robt., London ... 20
Allen and Hanburys, London—Wholesale Export Druggists, etc. ... Cover, 19
Amalgamated Insurance Limited ... 1
Atkin's Quinine Wine 24
Ballantyne, L. H.—Neurogen 17
Beecham's Pills 27
Benger's, F. B. & Co. Ltd., Manchester 12
Bidwells' Tooth Brushes 21
Bosisto and Co., Richmond, Melbourne—Eucalyptus Oil ... ... Insert
Brand & Co., London—Specialties ... 3
Bressillon & Co. ... Opposite Editorial
Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London and Sydney ... ... Cover
Bush, W. J., and Co., London and Melbourne—Manufacturing Chemists, &c. 16
Cocks, Arthur, & Co., Opticians, etc. ... 7
College of Pharmacy... 9
Condy and Mitchell, London—Condy's Fluid ... First Page of Reading Matter
Davenport, J. T., Ltd., London—Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne ...
Dearborn Limited, Sydney 26
Denver Chemical Mfg Co., Sydney—Antiphlogistine 4
Denyer Brothers, Melbourne—Surgical Instrument and Truss Makers ... 17, 22
Duerdin & Sainsbury 21
Fassett & Johnson, Sydney—Emol Kelcet
Felton, Grimwade & Co., Melbourne ... 15
Freeman's Chlorodyne—London ... 29
Gollin and Co. Pty. Ltd., Melbourne—Pears Soap 10
Greathead's Mixture, Melbourne ... Insert
Hearne, W. G., Geelong—Bronchitis Cure 2
Henry, T. and W., Manchester ... 24
Holloway's Pills 26
Horlick's Malted Milk, England ... 24
Howards, England 1
I. O. A., Melbourne 17
Kemp, Campbell and Co., Sydney ... 25
Koch, Albert, Melbourne—Analyst ... 24
Lambert Pharmacal Co.—"Listerine" ... 14
Lewis, H. K.—Extra Pharmacopœia ...
Life Insurance Co. of Australia Ltd. ... Insert
Lloyd, Howard, and Co Ltd 18
Maltine Manufacturing Co. Ltd., London 18
Mauri Bros. and Thomson Ltd. ... 5
Mellin's Food 23
Neave's Food ... ...
Odol Chemical Works, London—Odol ...
Pacolol 8
Parke, Davis and Co., Detroit, U.S.A., and Sydney—Manufacturing Chemists ... Cover
Pharmacy Board Notices 28
Robert's Patent Filling Machine Co. ... 26
Rocke, Tompsitt and Co., Melbourne ... 6
Rosier, John, Melbourne—Chiropodist, etc. 30
"Sanitas" Co. Ltd.—"Sanitas-Sypol" Cover
Silberberg and Co., H. B., Melbourne.. 18
Scott and Bowne Ltd.—Scott's Emulsion 7
Seabury and Johnson, London and Sydney Cover
Stearns & Co., Frederick, Sydney ... 16
Stevenson and Howell, London ... 5
St Dalmas, A. De, Leicester—Plasters 21
S.P. Charges Co., England—Sulphaqua and Sulphaqua Soap ... ...
Thomas, F., Coaching College ... 20
Vapo Cresolene, New York—Vapo-Cresolene 11
Wallas, T. L., Sydney 23
Whitehead & Co., Melbourne—Chemists Labels 30
Woods' Great Peppermint Cure .. 20
Wood, W., & Co., Melbourne—Opticians 11
Wyleys Ltd., Coventry—Wholesale and Export Druggists... 13
Zeal, G. H. 22

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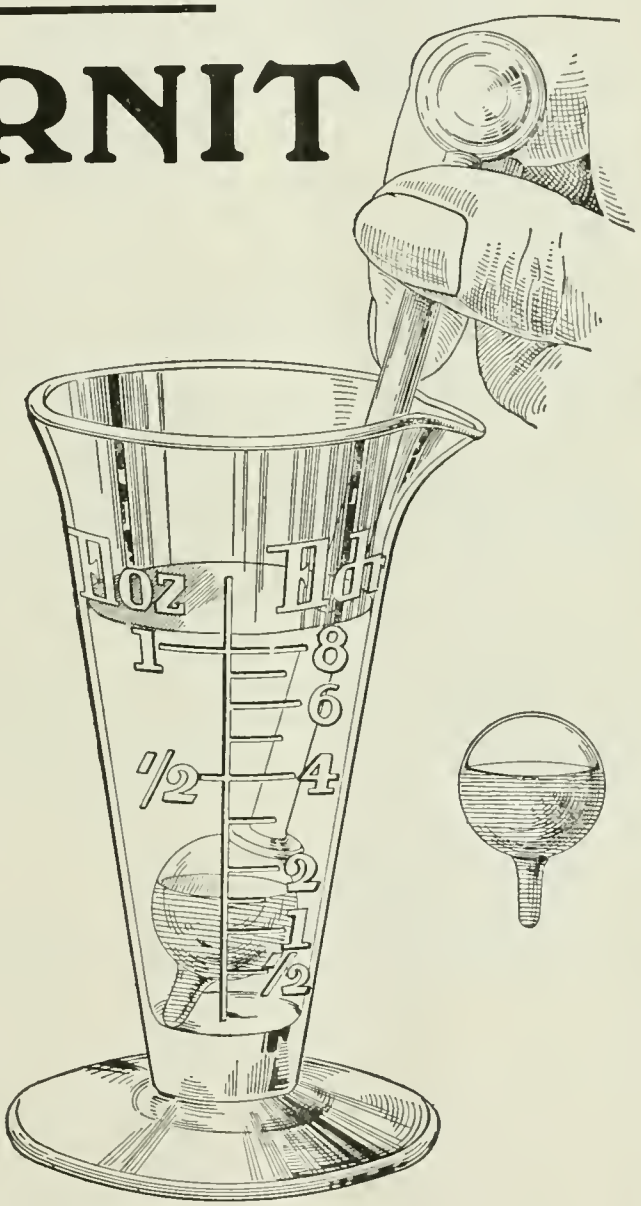

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 357. SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1915. Vol. XXX

Articles.

Why I Became a Pharmacist.

CLAUD A. SMITH IN THE "BULLETIN OF PHARMACY."

A boy's reason for choosing a certain line of work may be quite different from a man's reasons for selecting the same occupation. As a boy, I considered pharmacy my best substitute for a college education; as a man I chose it for the business I would enter, confirming this decision by the test of practical work. My final decision I made at the age of twenty-six, when I went into the drug business for myself.

At the age of nineteen I entered a "prep." school, largely on my parents' urging. They wished me to finish the preparatory school course, then take a four years' college course, and finally enter law or medical school for more preparation before taking up real work.

After two years of this plan, I rebelled; it was too much for a boy used to independence. I was older than most high or preparatory schoolboys, I had been used to making my own way, and I could not endure the thought of spending six or eight years longer in a schoolroom. Besides, I had doubts as to my fitness for either a lawyer's or a doctor's career. Still, I was too well aware of my need for a good general education to quit school altogether.

long and hard I pondered the question of how I could secure the essentials of a good education, at the same time fitting myself for a man's work. Nearly half my original capital was left, and I decided to invest it in a course in pharmacy. Here, I thought, I had found the solution for my problem.

WHERE PHARMACY SCORED.

By reason of its dual nature, pharmacy had a great and forceful appeal to me then. In four years' time I could fit myself for a profession, gain a practical working knowledge of a business, and put by something toward a start in business for myself. To follow medicine or law, I must spend all my time and money in preparation alone. In pharmacy I saw all the advantages of a profession, with few of what might be termed a professional's disadvantages, and with all the profit of a conservative enterprise.

Another thing that appealed to me was the fact that the druggist can start in with an amount of capital that would give him only a "one horse" stock in any other business, and yet be comfortably independent, prosperous, a man of influence in the community. A modest beginning in a drug store of my own seemed to promise infinitely more than limited capital might in other lines of business.

Two years in a pharmacy school broadened my general fund of knowledge. In Latin, botany, physics, histology, and English, the courses, while planned with special reference to the needs of pharmacists, were helpful in their general scope as well. A good foundation for the theoretical side of the calling was obtained from a strong, thorough training in chemistry, materia medica, and pharmacy. Education on the practical side of the subject was secured from courses in commercial law and bookkeeping, and from special lectures on practical pharmacy. In few, if in any other schools, do we find such a training in scholarship allied with a basis for specialists' work as is offered in a standard college of pharmacy.

TAKING THE FINAL CHOICE.

Upon my graduation I again considered my choice of [illegible]. In the roll call of druggists I knew few failures; many more than two to one successes confirmed my choice.

The testing of my devotion to pill-rolling came in the years of my apprenticeship. Working for a grouch tested both my ability and stickability. That boss chewed tobacco, spit, and growled, while I did the work of two men for half-pay. In happy contrast to the grouch I recall my last employer, a druggist of the old school and a shrewd and practical man of affairs. His example, training and kind advice have been potent factors in making the druggist's calling my final choice, and have contributed much to my success therein. His ideas were sound and his methods good. The experience I gained while in his employ has proved of incalculable worth to me.

From his success, more than from that of any other druggist I have known, I was thoroughly convinced of the real profit in a properly managed drug store. I believe the business will yield better returns in proportion to the amount of money invested than any other line. That's why I'm sticking to it, spite of cut rates, etc.

For me pharmacy as a profession retains all its old fascination, and as a business I enjoy it more every day. I believe in its future. I am heart and soul for its advancement. If I had my life over I would again become a pharmacist.

Scientific Notes.

Abstracts of Original Articles.

IMPORTANT WORK ON SPIRITS ÆTHER NITROSI.

In the *British Medical Journal* of July [illegible] three reports to the Secretary of the British Medical Association appear [illegible] of interest to pharmacists. The first is by Professor C. R. Marshall, M.D., and Elizabeth C. Frost, M.A., D.Sc., upon the "Composition and Pharmacological Action of Spiritus Ætheris Nitrosi." The second is by Professor Ralph Stockman, M.D., upon "Liquid Extracts of Senna" and the third is also by Professor Stockman upon "Copaiba Oil and [illegible]." In the first report the authors state that [illegible] evident from the [illegible] of preparation and the test applied that [illegible] nitrite has been [illegible] as the active constituent in sweet spirit of nitre, the standard of the *British Pharmacopœia*, although as far as we know, [illegible] not [illegible] to support [illegible] the [illegible] of Professor [illegible]

It does not appear, however, to have found universal acceptance, and the British Pharmaceutical Conference asked the co-operation of the Therapeutic Subcommittee of the Association in further work on the nature of the active ingredient or ingredients. The following statement was submitted to the Subcommittee by the secretaries of the Conference:—

"It is desirable that we should know if the important constituent in spirit of nitrous ether be the acetaldehyde, the ethyl nitrite, or the alcohol. If the first, then a pharmacopoeial test could be devised which would insist on its presence. If the ethyl nitrite be the only constituent of importance then suitable processes of preparation and testing could be defined. Since the liquor ethyl nitritis *B.P.* 1898, which is a solution of ethyl nitrite, has practically not come into use, whereas the old sweet spirit of nitre of the London Pharmacopoeia, containing aldehyde but little or no nitrite, is still in use, the question is of practical importance.'

"The matter was referred to one of us for report. For the purposes of the investigation Mr. Finnemore, one of the secretaries of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, kindly prepared and sent to us samples made according to the old London Pharmacopoeia and the *British Pharmacopoeia* (1898) and a solution of ethyl nitrite in alcohol. We have also prepared sweet spirit of nitre according to the *British Pharmacopoeias* 1898 and 1914, and the German Pharmacopoeia 1900; and a solution of ethyl nitrite. These and specimens bought from a retail pharmacist have been used in the investigation."

Analyses by the authors showed that the various sweet spirits of nitre not only contained ethyl nitrite and aldehyde, but also ethyl nitrate and paraldehyde. If not acid, or, if neutralised, they relatively quickly become acid on keeping owing to the formation of small varieties of nitrous nitric and acetic acids.

After giving details of the methods of assay, the authors obtained the following results on analysis, the figures referring to grams in 100 grams of spirit:—

Composition of Different Sweet Spirits of Nitre.

	Acidity in Terms of Normality.	Aldehyde	Paraldehyde.	Ethyl Nitrite.	Ethyl Nitrate (approx)
Sp. æther. nit., B.P. (freshly made).	None	None	None	2.5	3.5
Sp. æther. nit. (Finnemore's six months old)	0.16 N.	0.72	0.2	2.3	3.0
Do. (Germ Pharm.) ..	0.13 N.	0.8	0.32	2.05	10
Do. (Lond. Pharm.) ..	0.02 N.	0.016	Trace	None	10
Do. (L.P., mod I) ...	0.2 N	None	None	2.04	5
Do (L.P., mod II) ..	0.27 N	0.01	Trace	1.84	12

The authors consider the acidity is of no therapeutic importance, and to be reckoned with only from the point of view of incompatibility. By means of experiments made by the injection of various specimens into the external jugular vein of dogs the authors have come to the conclusion that the ethyl nitrate which was found in unexpectedly large amounts in some of the preparations has relatively slight effect, and is of little practical importance. They consider that the paraldehyde occasionally present does not seem to contribute to the activity of sweet spirit of nitre, that the alcohol present is carminative in its action, and does not explain the whole activity of the preparation, especially its baso-motor action. By experiments on one of themselves, details of which are given, the authors came to the same conclusion as to the effect of ethyl nitrate that they had arrived at by experiments on dogs, and that the action of aldehyde was wholly unimportant. Finally, they come to the following important conclusion:—*In view of these and other experiments, it seems to us that the activity of sweet spirit of nitre is due to the ethyl nitrite present.*"

The authors then proceed to discuss the changes which take place in sweet spirit of nitre on the addition of water and on keeping. The bubbles of gas which are formed when the preparation is diluted with water are due to ethyl nitrite, which boils at 17° C., and is insoluble in water. If left standing in an open vessel the diluted spirit loses more ethyl nitrite, *and finally in about an hour the ethyl nitrite has practically disappeared.*

A most interesting series of experiments by the authors shows by the following table and graph the loss of ethyl nitrite when a 10 per cent. solution of sweet spirit of nitre in water is allowed to stand *in a corked medicine bottle at ordinary temperatures in a dull light.*

Table III.

Time after Mixing.	C.c.m. of NO.
0	3.5
2 minutes	2.6
1 hour	2.2
21 hours	1.8
45 ,, ...	1.3
69 ,, ...	0.8
93 ,, ...	0.4

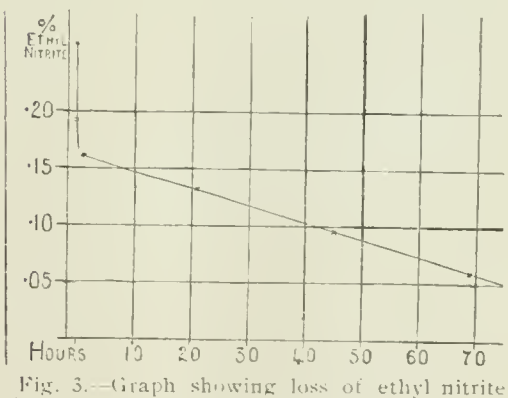

Fig. 3.—Graph showing loss of ethyl nitrite when a 10 per cent solution of spiritus ætheris nitrosi, B.P., in water is dispensed and allowed to stand in a corked medicine bottle.

The authors find it difficult to follow the chemical changes involved by keeping the preparation, but they think that "they are probably due in the first instance to hydrolyses of some

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

but poor drug. We must not argue that because others have failed we are to go on failing to the end of the chapter. It was a mistake to think that anyone with a little land and a little money could start drug farming and make a success of it from the start. People had often to buy their experience, and we should profit by the experience of others. We have to face the fact that Australia will always be dependent upon other lands for plants that would well grow on our own shores if we went the right way to work. We should, and we must, sooner or later, make ourselves independent of, say, Germany for our atropine and our belladonna. There is a field of usefulness open to those who will investigate this matter.

Mr. R. T. Baker said that his experience coincided with that of Mr. Maiden. The difficulties of making drug farming a profitable industry were very great, especially in the face of the costly labour and the uncertain climate. He did not like to throw cold water on the efforts of any person desirous of making the attempt, but he recognised that there were serious difficulties to be faced by any one entering into the work of growing medicinal plants for the Australian market at the present time, especially as after the war the women and children of Europe would probably be employed in this work.

Mr. Cheil showed some specimens of taraxacum and of the hybiscas and other plants which he thought might prove useful; but Mr. Maiden pointed out that for the most part these were not the products especially affected by the war or of which there was a shortage at the present time.

The President (Dr. Greig Smith) said that in view of the experiences of Mr. Maiden and others there seemed little prospect of drug cultivation becoming a profitable undertaking in Australia at the present time.

Opening for Research Work.

Mr. Fred Turner, F.L.S., wrote to the *Daily Telegraph* on September 7:—"I read with much interest the remarks made at a recent meeting of the local Royal Society by Mr. F. Wright, on medicinal plants. As I have cultivated many of these important therapeutic products, both in Europe and Australia, I agree with that gentleman's statement that they can be successfully grown in this country.

"Some years ago the Government of New South Wales instructed me to prepare a catalogue of commercial plants, which I knew from practical experience would be suitable for cultivation in different parts of this State. This I did. There are several indigenous plants employed medicinally, but only empirically, by settlers in the country. All these, and many others suspected of having therapeutic properties, are well worth chemical investigation. To illustrate the value of such work, I may mention that my discovery, Strychnos psilosperma, the rarest and most remarkable tree of New South Wales, was chemically investigated by Dr. Petrie at the Sydney University, and was found to contain brucine, strychnine, and the newly discovered Australian alkaloid strychnicine.

"Now that women are taking an interest in horticultural and agricultural pursuits, medicinal plants might be cultivated to advantage, as auxiliary products; for the work is not laborious, though some skill and care are necessary in gathering the various leaves, flowers, fruits, and roots at their proper stages of development in order to maintain a higher standard of quality, and to satisfy the druggists' requirements. Many of them, as, for example, henbane, Hyoscyamus niger, are easily raised from seed sown in the ordinary way. It would be wise policy on the part of the Government of this State to have those species that are mostly propagated by offsets, like the Barbadoes aloes, Aloe vulgaris, cultivated at the various experimental farms, so that correctly named plants could be distributed to those who desired to grow them on a commercial scale."

In further reference to the possibilities of cultivating in Australia some of the more extensively imported medicinal plants, the following letter from Mr. Fred. Wright was published in the *Daily Telegraph* on September 9:—

"I am glad that Mr. Fred. Turner, F.L.S., agrees with me that medicinal plants can and should be cultivated in Australia, and, in spite of their speeches at the Royal Society's meeting recently, I believe that Mr. J. H. Maiden and Mr. R. T. Baker are quite in sympathy with the project; but, as they know so well the difficulties attending the cultivation of drug plants, they do not like to encourage people to attempt a task that is by no means an easy one, and one in which many people may fail for want of proper knowledge on the subject.

"The difficulties may be overcome readily if the State Departments of Agriculture will make the preliminary investigations, and will furnish would-be drug farmers with accurate data as to the essentials for successful work. It is useless for a man in Queensland to attempt to cultivate a drug plant that would do very well in Victoria, nor is it advisable for a man to put in a crop which will yield a result far in excess of the requirements for the whole of Australia. If, however, experimental work were undertaken by our various experiment farms throughout Australia, and if accurate particulars were collected as to the amount of the various drugs consumed in Australia, we would not be met with the difficulty that we would soon find that certain plants were "a drug in the market," nor would we have cultivators discovering that they were trying to grow a plant under conditions which militated against its being found to be rich in the active principles which alone rendered it useful in medicine.

"To begin with, the would-be drug grower requires expert advice as to the best conditions in which to grow the plant. He also should know what is the consumption of the Commonwealth, and should be fairly sure of a market when his crop is ready for sale. One man may be able to grow enough squill bulb to furnish supplies for the whole of Australia, while several growers may be engaged in the cultivation

of the [illegible] leaves [illegible] a starke coat [illegible] as it the [illegible] he [illegible] grows the [illegible]

"I took the opportunity of [illegible] plants before the [illegible] the fact that we are importing [illegible] drug plants which may possibly be grown in Australia, as there is no known drug plant which will not flourish in some part of our continent. If the officials connected with the various Departments of Agriculture [illegible] to take an interest in the matter, and if possible the Minister for Agriculture will give it his attention, we may be on the eve of experimental and investigational work which may lead not to the immediate extensive drug growing [illegible] of doubtless some useful [illegible] spirit [illegible] the production of drug plants, which will thrive [illegible] other properties, and which may be turned into money. This, which I suggest could be done at first, or even a [illegible] would be a welcome and substantial addition to our resources.

"There are several well-known authorities on plant life who will give their advice to those who wish to try their hands at drug plant growing, and among the foremost I would name Mr Maiden, Mr R. T. Baker, and Mr Fred. Turner. Nobody is more ready to help in such work than the Government Botanist, and to his kindly assistance I am indebted for many practical advices and [illegible] the [illegible] subject."

Reviews.

A Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus.

By J. H. Maiden (Government Botanist of New South Wales and Director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney).

Vol. III.—Part 30.

Being part XXIII. of the complete work.

Published by authority of the Government of New South Wales.

The present part contains descriptions, comparative notes of characters, together with a concise of the economic range and affinities of three species of Eucalyptus.

These are E. robusta, Smith, E. botryoides, Sm., and E. saligna, Sm.

[illegible] species has many [illegible] in fact, the author says, that "we have [illegible] one of the most instructive examples I know of [illegible] would [illegible] repeatedly well known [illegible] into such [illegible] I pressed a specimen of the [illegible] and [illegible] have been much to be said for the view that the two could not [illegible] should be [illegible] species, viz., saligna and [illegible]. The more I examine the [illegible] the more I am pressed with a matter of [illegible] I separate the two so-called [illegible] species."

The three species described are handsome [illegible] trees, the leaves being bold in [illegible] habit, and affording shade much denser than that afforded by the Eucalypti generally. The timber of E. robusta and E. botryoides is similar, and goes generally by the name of mahogany, but many bushmen distinguish the two and call E. robusta "Swamp mahogany" and E. botryoides "bastard mahogany." Of the three species one only is found native in Victoria, viz., E. botryoides, and is there confined to the locality of East Gippsland. They are all coast-district trees, and, with the exception above quoted, confined to New South Wales and Queensland. They are being planted to some small extent in Victoria for ornamental purposes.

E. Saligna has one variety, being var pallidiva[illegible]. The variety parvuflora Deane and Maiden [illegible] described by Mr Maiden as a distinct species, E. Deanei.

The [illegible] accompanying the text retain the admirable quality of those which have gone before, but for convenience of reference, it would be desirable, if possible, not to split the figures of any one species into two plates. Thus in the present issue the figures of E. robusta are found in plates 97 and 98 of E. botryoides in plates 98 and 99, and of E. Saligna in plates 99 and 100.

S.P.

How Physicians Write Prescriptions.

Some months ago Dr. Bernard Fantus sent to leading pharmacists throughout the United States questionnaires requesting reports on one hundred consecutive prescriptions taken at random from pharmacists' files. His report, presented at the second annual session of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, covers a review of ten thousand prescriptions. The following tabulation, says the *California State Journal of Medicine*, shows the percentages obtained from the various questions submitted:—

Report on the examination of 10,000 consecutive prescriptions.

	Per Cent
A. Written in English	30
B. Use of poor [illegible]	18
C. Almost illegible	4
D. Lack of metric system [illegible] a small percentage
E. Number of ingredients—	
1. Less than three	46
2. More than [illegible]	11
F. Proprietaries	24
G. Specific preparations	11
H. Incompatibles	2
I. Obvious omissions or errors	1
J. Has the practice of prescription-writing improved or deteriorated within the last ten years? Improvement re[illegible]	55
In what respect? More U. S. P. and N. F. preparations used. Deteriora[illegible] reported	20

Dispensing for Returned Soldiers.

THREE SEPARATE SCHEMES. DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS TERMS. ACCOUNTS TO BE CERTIFIED BY MEDICAL OFFICER.

The negotiations which have taken place during the month between the various Pharmaceutical Societies and the principal medical officers of the Defence Department in each military district have resulted in three distinct schemes being accepted for the supply of medicines to returned soldiers, viz.:—

Supply of Medicines.

1. Dispensing fee of 1s. per recipe plus actual cost of drugs, containers, etc. (Adopted by New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania.)

2. Dispensing fee of 6d., plus 25 per cent. profit, including containers, carriage, etc. (Queensland proposal.)

3. Drugs, bottles, etc., 33 1-3 per cent. on laid down cost at dispensary. Dispensing fee (covering corks, labels, copying, rendering accounts, and provision of capital until accounts paid), nil, but included in agreement in order not to form a precedent. (Western Australia.)

Bandages and Dressings.

All the States agreed to supply these at 25 per cent. on laid down cost.

System of Checking.

1. Official "Soldiers' Card" to be presented with each prescription.

2. Patient to present written prescription, or order from medical man in each case where medicines or dressings are required.

3. Doctor's order or prescription to be retained by chemist as his voucher. Patient to acknowledge receipt of the goods by signing the prescription.

4. Chemist to give patient copy of prescription.

5. If "repeat" is necessary, doctor to sign the prescription copy, which then becomes an original copy, and in its turn will be dealt with in accordance with paragraph 3, and a fresh copy given to the patient

6. Bandages or dressings only to be supplied on written order of doctor. Order to be retained by chemist.

7. Patient to have free choice of pharmacist in the district stated on his card.

8. Chemists' accounts to be certified to as correct by the local medical officer.

9. All vouchers received during the month to be legibly priced by chemist, numbered, and attached to account and forwarded to the local medical officer for his certificate.

10. In arriving at the charge for any ingredient of a prescription or for a container, every fraction of a penny shall be reckoned as one penny. (Queensland suggestion.)

11. Accounts to be then forwarded to District Headquarters for payment.

The procedure adopted provides for the issue of an official card, containing the soldier's name and the town to which he has been permitted to return, together with the name of the medical officer under whose charge he has been placed.

On the other side of the card, the terms of attendance are set out. One of the paragraphs reads:—

> "Prescriptions will be taken to the chemist and account certified to by medical officer will be sent to District Headquarters for payment."

This direction was considered somewhat vague, and on September 13, the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, Melbourne, waited on the Director-General of the Medical Services and pointed out the difficulty of securing the doctor's certificate in cases where a medical man prescribed in one town and the soldier had the prescription dispensed in another. It was also urged that the department would save money if it took advantage of the services of the proposed Pharmaceutical Committee.

Correspondence ensued on this subject, and the following decision was arrived at by the department:—

(1) The soldier must have the prescription of his medical officer dispensed by a pharmacist *in the same town.* (He can go to any pharmacist in the town he likes.)

(2) If the soldier is proceeding to another town, he must obtain permission from the Staff Officer for Invalids to transfer to another medical officer, and have a fresh card issued.

(3) Medicines dispensed outside of these terms must be paid for by the soldier himself.

State Activities.

The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales issued a circular to its members on August 30, setting out the details of the proposed scheme, and asking for a written acceptance of the terms, and a statement from pharmacists that they were willing to place their names on the list which the department had asked should be supplied. There was a good response to this circular, and already a large number of names have been enrolled.

In Queensland, local conditions were such that it was considered desirable to depart somewhat from the Victorian scheme. Carriage to Townsville, for example, increased the cost by 6 or 7 per cent. alone. A chemist at Cloncurry might have to pay 20 per cent. on cost for freight. In some of these distant places, bottles cost as much as 6d. each. It was for these and similar reasons that the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland recommended that 25 per cent. profit should be charged on the laid down cost of drugs, etc. To the circular which was sent out, 95 per cent. of the replies favoured the Council's proposals; a few wanted even 33 1-3 per cent. on cost. Over 75 per cent. of the chemists of Queensland replied to the Council's circular. On September 10, the proposals were submitted to the depart-

ment in writing, and it was pointed out that the scheme would not be found so cumbersome in operation as it appeared at first glance. The Council of the Society would be glad to afford the department every assistance in carrying out the scheme.

Mr. F. W. Mayhew, secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia, had submitted his proposal prior to the receipt of the Victorian telegram. He was able at any early stage to advise the B.M.A. not to undertake the supply of drugs, etc. This having been arranged he conferred with the P.M.O., and subsequently received the following acceptance of the terms submitted:—

The proposal you laid before me to-day appears to me to be fair, namely —

1. Dressings, sundries, and drugs in original packets, 25 per cent. on laid down cost at dispensary.
2. Drugs, bottles, etc., used in dispensary, 33 per cent. advance on laid down cost at dispensary. Dispensing corks, labels, etc., not charged for.

I shall make the proviso that the department will not be responsible for the cost of any article not prescribed for by the medical practitioner in charge of the case, and accounts must be passed by him.

As I stated to you to-day, every endeavour will be made, except in exceptional circumstances, to retain all patients requiring much medical attention either in hospitals or convalescent homes.

I have laid these views before the Director-General, Medical Services, and he agrees with them.

In the other States, local arrangements proceeded on lines very similar to what was done in Victoria. The department does not consider it likely that pharmacists in the large cities will be called on under the scheme, as soldiers in those centres are provided for at the base hospitals.

Medical View of the Scheme.

The members of the medical profession throughout Australia have assisted to their readiness to render medical attendance on the sick and wounded soldiers after discharge from the military hospitals. Whether payment should be accepted or not for these services has been a matter of some difference of opinion, but practically exists in regard to the necessity of the provision by the Government of dressings and medicines. The Federal Authority has suggested that the sum of £5 should suffice for this purpose for a period of six months. *The Medical Journal of Australia* of September 18 states that the question may be shortly, will or will not the medicines, for which the Federal Government pays? There are two aspects as to the advisability of handing over all dispensing to pharmacists. The principle involved has been opposed for many years, but in practice a certain amount of difficulty is found to be experienced. In the matter referred to, it appears that to the disabled soldiers, who, [illegible] after a considerable distance from a pharmacist. The medical practitioners in the majority of country districts within the Commonwealth are in the habit of dispensing medicines for their patients, and have carried this work out satisfactorily. It must be remembered that the practice of dispensing has been undertaken by medical men, not from choice, but from necessity. The practice has become complicated by two considerations. In the first place, the medical practitioner is a professional man, and should not lower the practice of his profession by engaging in trade. The sale of medicines is a trade, pure and simple, and it is not dignified for a doctor to be dependent on profits made by selling bottles of medicine to his patients. On the other hand, the patient in country districts especially is often ill-disposed to pay a pharmacist as well as a doctor. Patients are prone to regard the aim of the practitioner to be the exhibition of a drug in the treatment of the disease, and the average patient of the little educated class holds that a doctor is paid for the medicine he gives, and not for his knowledge and skill in guiding the treatment of disease, in making a correct diagnosis and in adopting measures for the safety of the patient and those in immediate contact with him. The community must therefore be educated before the practitioner can afford to give up dispensing. The sooner this education is accomplished, the better for all concerned.

Several years ago it was suggested that the medical practitioners and the pharmacists in England should enter upon an agreement that the former should cease to dispense and the latter to prescribe. This arrangement was not effected, because the mass of country practitioners and of rural and suburban pharmacists feared that a financial loss would be entailed. The promoters of the scheme were not inclined to give up hope that the understanding might be arrived at after an extended campaign, but national insurance made a short cut, albeit a one-sided one. Under the National Insurance Act, doctors are not allowed to dispense medicines for insurance patients, save in those districts where a registered pharmacist is not available. In other words, the members of the profession have been forced to give up dispensing to a great extent, if not wholly, without having obtained a *quid pro quo* in the form of an undertaking from the pharmacists that they would give up prescribing.

The conditions in Australia are less favourable for the introduction of voluntary or compulsory arrangements at what we might call mutual poaching on the part of the two callings. But no medical man can close his eyes to the fact that medical practice, or at all events prescribing, possibly without a preliminary diagnosis, by a pharmacist is extremely detrimental to the public interest, and a dangerous practice. It would therefore be advisable if the professions were to take into consideration the whole question of dispensing by doctors and prescribing by pharmacists before the authority takes the bull by the horns and passes a legislative prohibition, which may be less advantageous to both parties. After a period of preliminary educating the public, the representative bodies of the medical profession and of the pharmacists might confer, under the auspices of a [illegible] might be evolved.

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Editorial.

Dispensing for Returned Soldiers.

From the reports which have been received from the various States it is evident that very careful consideration has been given to the communication from the Director-General of Medical Services in reference to the supply of medicines and dressings to returned soldiers.

Although three distinct schemes have been submitted to the Defence Department, differing slightly as to details, the outstanding principle in each of them is the insistence of the right of the pharmacist to have his professional services recognised as such. A general desire on the part of pharmacists not to take advantage of the Government has led to the submission of offers to undertake the work at rates considerably lower than those ordinarily charged. That pharmacists felt impelled to offer their services freely and voluntarily on this basis is greatly to their credit. They are acting as every patriotic citizen should in helping to shoulder the burden which the present war has cast upon the nation as a whole.

What is now required is that there should be a general and wholehearted response to the call which has been made. Let it not be said that any pharmacist was small-minded or short-sighted enough to refuse this national service because of some minor dissatisfaction regarding the terms arranged. We believe that every pharmacist in the Commonwealth will readily fulfil his part in undertaking the work on the basis arranged, but will also carefully endeavour to carry out the details of the scheme in their entirety.

It is extremely important to bear in mind that the success or otherwise of the scheme will have a potent bearing on the practicality of the tariff principle in dispensing as applied to any future scheme of National Health Insurance.

The leaders of pharmacy in the different States have concentrated their efforts in establishing two important principles—

(1) The separation of prescribing and dispensing.

(2) The acceptance of a tariff scheme.

Organised pharmacy has therefore justified itself once again, and has laid a solid foundation on which a superstructure may be raised fair and acceptable to all the parties concerned.

Further details of the arrangements made in the various States will be found elsewhere in this issue.

And all that is asked of the individual pharmacist is that he will scrupulously endeavour to carry out his part of the contract. A great deal depends on the smoothness and accuracy with which the present scheme works. Friction should be avoided

[illegible] there are any complaints or [illegible] it is asked that they should be referred to pharmaceutical headquarters for adjustment. The Secretaries of the State Pharmaceutical Societies are in close touch with the Defence Department, and will be only too pleased to assist pharmacists seeking information on any point which may arise in connection with the scheme.

Sweet Spirit of Nitre.

The most important contribution to medical literature, which has appeared for some time, on a subject closely associated with Pharmacy, is a report of the Science Committee of the British Medical Association on the composition and pharmacological action of Spiritus Ætheris Nitrosi.

It is published in the *British Medical Journal* of July 24th, and is by Professor C. R. Marshall, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica, and Elizabeth Gilchrist, M.A., B.Sc., assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica, University of St. Andrews. The report is too long for republication in extenso, but an abstract by Dr. Plowman appears in another part of this issue of the Journal. It is very gratifying to note that this extremely important contribution to Medical and Pharmaceutical knowledge is the outcome of a request on the part of the British Pharmaceutical Conference for co-operation of the Therapeutic Sub Committee of the British Medical Association in further work on the nature of the active ingredient or ingredients in Sweet Spirit of Nitre.

The report is a remarkable one, abounding in experiments, tables and graphs, and would seem to absolutely settle many points which have been the subject of much controversy, and until the publication of this report still in doubt.

The report will well repay perusal in the original.

ALL FRENCH PREPARATIONS.

LACTEOL

"Lactic ferments." Absolutely odourless and absolutely white. Owing to the special process of manufacture, Lacteol may be kept any length of time.

Sold only in boxes of 45 tablets, or in powder (Pulvi-Lacteol).

HIPPOSARCINE ROY

New extract of meat, containing four times more Glycogen and more Hæmoglobin and Iron than any other preparation.

No preparation required whatsoever, a most pleasant beverage immediately at hand by simply adding mineral aerated water. Sold in bottles of 8 and 16 oz.

CROLAS OIL

Pure Cold-drawn Castor Oil, absolutely without colour, smell or taste.

Put up in 2 oz. bottle, with patent stopper.

GLYPHOSPHER

A perfect pharmaceutical combination of the following CHEMICALLY PURE RECRYSTALLIZED Salts:—Calcii, Sodii, Manganese, Ferri, Strichnine, Glycerophosphates. Entire absence of sugar.

Elixir 6 oz bottle—Hypodermic (box of 16 amp. of 1 c.c.)

IODEOL

Colloidal Iodine pure and stable, free from Peptone, Glycogen or Menthol. "Colloidal Iodine is the only anti-tuberculous medicament having definitely proved 'Antitoxic' effects."

Forms Hypodermic, External, Capsules, Ovules.

IODARGOL

Antigonorrhoeal Iodeol.

Sold in box of 6 amp. of 2 c.c. each.

AMPSALVS

The most simple, the most certain, the most economical apparatus for instantaneous preparation of an Aseptic solution of Novarsenobenzol (Ehrlich's 914) for its Aseptic filtration and for its entry into the syringe.

SUPSALVS

(Soluble suppositories). A most excellent method for administration of Ehrlich's 606. No trouble—no harm. Adults and infants. Sold in box of 6.

DELTA SYRINGE

Special for urethral injections.

URASEPTINE

The most powerful of all urinary antiseptics.

M. BRESILLON & Co.

Gamage Buildings, Holborn, London, E.C.

TELEGRAMS: AMIDA, LAN, LONDON.

Sole Agents for United Kingdom Colonies and Dominions for the above preparations are advertising extensively to the medical profession in Australasia, and would consider any enquiries as favour.

The Month.

P.D.L. Third Year.

By the end of this month the P.D.L. will have completed its third year. Its growth has been rapid because of its necessity. Based on a good foundation, its efforts have been not only directed in the defence of individual members, but also for the benefit of the craft as a whole. It has fully confirmed the wisdom of its promoters, and has now become firmly established in most of the Australian States. Gloomy prognostications of its early decease have yet to be fulfilled, and those who predicted that it would injure other pharmaceutical organisations have been altogether wrong in their calculations. Judged from a most critical standpoint, the P.D.L. has justified itself, and no pharmacist, for his own peace of mind, can afford to remain insensible to the benefits it confers upon him as an individual or upon the profession generally. With the commencement of a new year on October 1 it is hoped that there will be a still further accession of new members.

Who's Who in Trade.

Mr. Critchley Parker, proprietor of the *Statesman and Mining Standard*, is doing a public service in unmasking the devious methods of German trade. He has published a number of pamphlets on the subject, and with much courage has circulated information regarding certain firms selling goods in Australia which, although masquerading as British or Australian-made, are alleged to be in reality goods of enemy origin. Two or three well-known and widely-advertised proprietary lines with which most pharmacists are familiar are trenchantly dealt with in a recent paper published by Mr. Parker. Pharmacists can do a good deal by refusing to stock goods which may be under the slightest suspicion of being connected in any way with enemy subjects. There can be no beating about the bush in these matters. It is a clear-cut issue, and no Australian is worthy of the name who encourages, in any way, the sale of articles of tainted origin. Depend on it, there is no false sentiment on this point on the German side. Let there be an equal determination on the part of Australians to absolutely close the door to all goods which are now, or even were before the war, known to be of German origin.

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

In the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia on September 8, Mr. Underwood, Honorary Minister, introduced a Bill amending the Health Act, making it compulsory for any person suffering from venereal disease to report to a medical practitioner within three days. Under the Bill chemists are to be prohibited from treating diseases of this nature. Free treatment of unfortunate women is proposed in order to protect them from being harassed by unscrupulous practitioners. The debate on the Bill was adjourned.

Prescriptions by Telephone.

Recent poisoning cases have re-opened the question of the position of pharmacists receiving telephoned prescriptions from medical practitioners. That this is frequently done is generally admitted, and in some cases emergency may justify it. But, from the pharmacist's standpoint the practice is a dangerous one, capable of placing the dispenser in a very awkward position should an error occur owing to some misunderstanding over the telephone. Pharmacists are strongly advised to restrict the practice as far as possible to emergency requirements, and in all cases to insist on a confirmatory written prescription being subsequently furnished.

Waubra Poisoning Case.

A full report of the proceedings at the coroner's inquest at which a well-known Ballarat chemist and doctor were committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter is printed elsewhere in this issue. Being *sub judice* it is not proposed to comment on the surroundings of the case at this stage. The trial will take place at the General Sessions, Ballarat, on October 5, before a Judge and Jury.

Aspirin Licence Granted.

On September 17, the Federal Attorney-General, Mr. W. M. Hughes, announced that he had granted a licence to Messrs. H. W. Shmith and G. R. R. Nicholas, St. Kilda, Victoria, to manufacture and sell Aspirin in the Commonwealth. Conditions have been attached to the issue of

the licence that the drug must comply with the tests in the British Pharmacopœia for Acetyl Salicylic Acid and that the price at which the product is vended must be satisfactory to the Attorney-General. Mr. Nicholas is a young Victorian pharmacist who passed through the College of Pharmacy in 1910 and qualified in June, 1912. He was apprenticed to Mr. A. T. Craven, Albert Park, and a little over a year ago purchased the business known as the Junction Pharmacy, at St. Kilda. For some time he and Mr. Shmith have been experimenting on the manufacture of Aspirin. As the result of their investigations they have succeeded in convincing the Attorney-General and the Federal Analyst (Mr. Wilkinson), that they are able to make Aspirin which complies with all the official tests.

War Notes.

Roll of Honor

Mr. Arthur E. S. Vernon, Ph.C., Victoria, is in charge of the dispensary at the Clearing Hospital, V.M.C., Gallipoli.

Mr. Percy Ross Bell, of Warrnambool, a past student of the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, went into camp during the month.

Corporal J. E. Crimmins, who recently passed the Victorian Final Examination, has joined the Expeditionary Forces, and is at present attached to the V.M.C. unit at Bendigo.

Mr. Eric Grimwade, eldest son of Mr. E. Grimwade, Treasurer, sailed to his father that he has been admitted to the British Aviation School, and was vigorously engaged in mastering the art of flying.

Mr. H. R. Laurance, son of Mr. T. V. Laurance, 97 Sydney road, Brunswick, who has been assisting in his father's pharmacy for the past fifteen months, went into camp on July 11, and will leave for the front shortly.

Mr. P. J. Sayer, brother of Mr. V. F. Sayer, a member of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, has left Australia for the Dardanelles during a recent [illegible]. He leaves a widow and four young children.

Mr. Lieut. Stanley Owen, son of Mr. Edwd. Geo. Owen, Hon. Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, was killed in action at the Dardanelles on August 8. He was employed by Messrs. Robert Reid and Co's Melbourne warehouse, and was highly respected both by the firm and his fellow employees.

Sgt. W. S. Rankin, son of Mr. D. Rankin, Past President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, has been joining the Australian Light Horse Corps through the officers' school of instruction, and is now eligible to receive a commission. He expects to leave for the front [illegible] weeks.

Mr. [illegible] McLeod, pharmacist, Sea Lake, has joined the overseas expeditionary forces.

Mr. F. W. Francis, son of Mr. R. P. Francis, of Messrs. Duerdin and Sansbury, Melbourne, has received a commission in King Edward's Horse. After having been for some time at the front, he has now returned to London for a brief spell.

Lieut.-Colonel Grimwade, of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co., will shortly leave for the Dardanelles as commanding officer of the Fourth Australian Artillery Brigade, which is now being trained under his direction.

Adelaide Officer Appointed.

Lieutenant-Colonel V. E. Shepherd, formerly of Adelaide, has succeeded Colonel R. H. Fetherston, Director of Medical Services, who left on August 24 for Egypt and the Dardanelles on an inspection tour. Lieut.-Col. Shepherd was preparing to go to the front when notified of his appointment.

Mr. E. F. Lipsham Sends a Line.

On Active Service,
July 16th, 1915.

To the Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,

I am sending you a short account of our doings aboard on our long run from Fremantle to Aden for publication in the "A.J.P." I always read similar articles with great interest, and as those concerned are all well known in their respective States, I trust you will find room to publish the paragraph I am enclosing.—Yours faithfully,

E. F. Lipsham.

News from the Front.

Mr. Francis V. J. Mathias, who left with the 3rd Australian Light Horse Field Ambulance, writing from Lemnos on July 23 to the Secretary of the College of Pharmacy, states that he and his two chums (Gilbert Jewkes and Frank Cahir, also College students) are in good health. The three of them have been promoted, and now have the honour of wearing three stripes and a crown. Mark Chapman (late with Messrs. Martin and Pleasance) is Warran, Officer of the Brigade, and at the time of writing was in Hehopotos. Mr. Mathias wishes to be remembered to his pharmaceutical friends and the members of the Chemists' Cricket Club.

Tooth Brush Appeal.

The appeal to Victorian pharmacists to contribute a dozen or more tooth brushes to the Red Cross Society for the use of wounded soldiers at the front and in the base hospitals in Egypt met with such a ready response that nearly every pharmacist in Victoria was a contributor. Each of the wholesale houses forwarded a detailed list to the Red Cross Society of those participating in the appeal, and it is understood that a direct acknowledgment has been made. Under these circumstances, it is not proposed to publish a list of contributors, as to do so would practically mean that the name of nearly every chemist on the Register in business would require to be printed.

Qualified Civilian Dispensers.

In the British House of Commons, on July 14, Mr. Glyn-Jones asked Mr. Tennant whether the War Office had during the past few weeks engaged as civilian dispensers in military hospitals qualified pharmacists on the condition that they received 40s. a week, with free rations and free accommodation; and whether the War Office will permit the pharmacists so engaged to enlist for the purpose of performing the same duties and receiving therefor the same emoluments as they now receive from the War Office as civilians. Mr. Tennant replied that if the men in question are of military age and are otherwise fit to enlist, they could do so, but they would require to come on the ordinary R.A.M.C. rates of pay. Mr. Glyn-Jones, in a supplementary question, asked Mr. Tennant whether he would consult the Pharmaceutical Society for the purpose of meeting any further need there may be for the use of trained pharmacists in the Army or in connection with it. Mr. Tennant answered that he would be very glad to avail himself of their services.

Social Life on to Troopship.

A unique and happy gathering of those connected with pharmacy took place on July 1st in the dispensary on board the troopship —— while crossing the Indian Ocean on the way to Egypt. The following men, all of A.M. Corps, assembled at the invitation of Pte. Lipsham (dispenser in charge):—Sgt. Maxwell (late of Hoyte and Co., Dublin, and F. H. Faulding and Co., Perth), Pte. Mervin Wild (of Ararat, Victoria), Pte. W. Watts (Victoria), Pte. Parry (of Fremantle) was unable to be present on account of an attack of *mal de mer*. A very enjoyable evening was spent in discussing pharmaceutical matters and relating anecdotes. The supper which followed was necessarily a "dry" one. A further meeting was arranged, but had to be abandoned, as the Chief Medical Officer objected to the dispensary being used for the purpose, and there was no other place available on the crowded ship.

Please forward copies of the Journal to the following:

Pte. E. F. Lipsham, 4744, 3rd General Hospital. On Service Abroad.

Sgt. Maxwell, 4831, 1st Hospital and Convalescent Home, Egypt.

Pte. N. V. Parry, 4800, 1st Hospital and Convalescent Home, Egypt.

Pte. Wild, 63, A.M.C., 1st General Hospital, Cairo.

Pte. Watts, 210, 6th Reinforcements, 3rd Field Ambulance. On Active Service.

"Aspirin" Trade Mark and the B P. Digest.

In the Federal House of Representatives on September 9 Mr. W. H. Kelly said (Hansard report):—"In yesterday's *Age* was published a letter addressed to the editor on the subject of the Aspirin trade mark, of which I propose to read a paragraph to correct a misapprehension which might otherwise be created regarding myself. The writer says —

> "While Mr. Kelly is devoting so much attention to Mr. Hughes and his connexion with Mr. Blair, it may not be out of place to inquire who is behind Mr. Kelly relative to the Aspirin question? Mr. Kelly stated in the House on Monday that—"Aspirin could be manufactured in England" Will Mr. Kelly produce his authority for this statement, and enlighten the public as to the name of the person, firm, or corporation who has discovered the process, and whose produce answers all the tests of the Bayer genuine German Aspirin? I do not refer to the impure drug with which the English market has been flooded, and with which an attempt is being made to exploit the Australian public, but pure Aspirin which will conform to the test prescribed by the recognised authority."

"Nobody is behind me in this matter; I have merely stated a fact that is well known to all doctors. In the *Digest of the New and More Important Features of the British Pharmacopoeia* 1914, the British equivalent is given of the trade name of various German proprietary drugs, the synonym for the German production, 'Aspirin,' being acidum acetylsalicylicum. This compound is produced under the following trade names:—Aspirin, acetosal, acetysal, salacetin, saletin, and xaxa, and it is also known as empirin. All these are names for the one synthetic chemical. The letter to which I have referred, asking why I have stated this simple fact, is evidence of either the frantic desire of Germans to bolster up 'goodwill' in this trade, or the wish of a local producer to exploit the market."

Effect of a Year's War on Drug Prices.

Pharmaceutical Journal, 31st July, 1915.

Before we go to press with our next issue, the war will have been raging for a full year, and the present is, therefore, a suitable time to consider what its effect has been on the drug and chemical markets, and to compare the prices quoted at the end of July, 1914, with those ruling just a year later. In a leading article in this journal at the beginning of August last year, it was predicted that the value of practically every drug and chemical would be affected, and in some cases seriously affected, and among the articles specifically mentioned as being likely to increase substantially in value were phenazone, phenacetin, salicylates, salol, acetylsalicylic acid, hexamethylenetetramine, quinine, santonin, potassium permanganate, bromides, iodides, glycerin, carbolic acid opium, morphine, and codeine. With the exception of quinine and glycerin, neither of which has advanced to anything like the extent anticipated, all the other articles mentioned and a large number of others have been affected in a remarkable degree. In one case at least — acetylsalicylic acid—the advance has been at the rate of over 1500 per cent., and, of course, chemicals of German origin have been affected most severely. But articles which were not obtained exclusively from Germany have also risen in value enormously. For instance, carbolic acid is 400 per cent. dearer, and picric acid, quicksilver, and mercurials 200 per cent. Santonin, which some years ago, when there was competition

[illegible] the [illegible] could be [illegible] at 4s per lb. [illegible] at 1s 6d per lb. [illegible] at this price [illegible] to nearly twice [illegible] has since receded to about 1s 3d per oz., which rules normally at about [illegible] the price which ruled when the war commenced. Strychnine has nearly doubled in price. Bismuth nitrate and oxide have advanced more than 50 per cent., iodides are dearer. One of the most sensational advances has been in the case of bromides, which have risen from about 1s 6d per lb. to 8s 6d per lb., which is indeed a remarkable increase, and it is due to that a few years ago, when there was still keen competition between European and American manufacturers of bromides, very large quantities were sold at even below 6d per lb. In addition to becoming so extraordinarily dear, some articles, such as the bromides, quicksilver and mercurials, butyl chloral hydrate, resorcin, iodol, acetylsalicylic acid, and phenazone, have become exceedingly scarce, some of them being practically unobtainable. But this country has not been alone in its experiences; all the drug markets of the world have been disorganised by the war, and even in Germany, the very home of a most important section of the drug and chemical industries, prices have continuously advanced, as those who have read our notes on the German drug market are aware. In France the advances in prices have been at much the same rate as they have been here, and during the past week [illegible] complaints have been made through the French press respecting the scarcity and dearness of medicines. Practically all the drugs that have advanced in price in this country have increased on the French markets, and to something like the same extent. A Parisian newspaper contends that such a state of affairs could have been avoided if French manufacturers had undertaken, as peace, produced the drugs and chemicals themselves instead of procuring them from Germany. It is easy to be wise after the event, but both France and Great Britain have learnt a lesson which neither will forget.

Advertising Enemy Goods.

In the Federal House of Representatives on September 2 Mr Hughes drew attention to the "Sanatogen" advertisement in the *Argus* and asked if the Attorney-General was satisfied that the preparation or portion of it, was not made in Germany.

Mr Hughes said that the position in regard to "Sanatogen" and a number of other preparations of German origin which had a wide reputation, had been considered by his Department as well as by the Government. There could be no doubt whatever that "Sanatogen" and one or two other [illegible] or foods were of German origin, and that the profit derived from them went to Germany. The Government had decided that no newspaper publishing an advertisement relating to these preparations shall be permitted to pass through the post.

Mr Kelly asked whether any step had been taken to put into effect the recommendation made by the Imperial Conference, that the Government should absolutely prohibit the importation into Australia of all goods covered by an enemy trade mark or trade description?

Mr Fisher said that the matter had been given consideration, but it was one that could not be decided in a day. No man could say off-hand what goods might not be excluded to their own disadvantage, and however strong might be their desire to strike the enemy, they were not going to cut off their noses to spite their faces.

Mr. Higgs. I understand that the Minister of Trade and Customs has in the past prohibited the importation of certain quack medicines that claimed to do more than they could do. I wish to know whether the Minister has observed the claims which are set forth in this morning's *Argus* as to the virtues of "Sanatogen," informing the public that old people will be made healthier, happier, and more vigorous, and that it will produce a real and lasting improvement in one's bodily health, a definite increase in one's nerve energy, and a profoundly beneficial effect upon every organ and function in one's body? Is the Minister satisfied that this medicine can do all that it claims to do; have his analysts informed him that the advertisement is fraudulent in its claims, and will he therefore prohibit the importation of the medicine?

Mr. Tudor. The sole control that the Customs Department has over this matter under the Commerce Act is the power to prohibit the importation of any article which does not comply with certain restrictions which are laid down. I am not sure whether "Sanatogen" is one of the articles which has been dealt with from an advertisement point of view, though I do not think that its importation would be allowed with the leaflets making these claims accompanying it; but once an article comes in there is no power to prevent leaflets being printed and wrapped round the bottles or tins. In the customs Department there are advertisements from nearly all the newspapers of Australia advertising quack remedies which would not have been permitted had they accompanied the bottles on their importation.

Dr. Maloney: It could be stopped if we provide that the formula should be printed on the label.

Mr Tudor. A recent House of Commons inquiry approved of the action taken by the Customs Department here as being absolutely the most that could be taken as far as the power of the Commonwealth existed to protect the people in this regard. Unfortunately we cannot deal with the newspapers which publish these advertisements.

Mr. Kelly. Has the Attorney-General directed the attention of the newspapers to the enemy nature and character of "Sanatogen"? If not, does he propose to give them warning as to his intention to penalise them for continuing such publication?

Mr Hughes. Certainly. But I assume that they will take this declaration of the policy of the Government as a warning. We do not propose to proceed against the newspapers without warning. In addition to "Sanatogen," I propose to notify the other preparations which, in

the opinion of the Department, fall within the same class, after which any newspapers publishing such advertisements will fall within the scope of the notification.

On September 8, Mr. Hughes said:—It is one thing to prevent the postage of newspapers that advertise the goods of German firms and another thing to stop the importation of an article made under licence in the United Kingdom and exported to Australia. That would be a very serious thing to do. For instance Sanatogen is made in England, and the case of the agent, who waited on me yesterday, is unassailable except on one point, namely, that all the profits, after the war, will go to Germany. I said that that fact was sufficient for me; but it is no answer to a person who has goods outside the Customs House barrier which are made in England, and which he desires shall come in. What are we to say in such a case? It is a very difficult question, and I shall look into it.

The Case of Mr. Julius Blau.

In the House of Representatives on September 1 Mr. W. H. Kelly said that in the *Argus* of that day the following statement occurred:—

Mr. Kelly said that the Attorney-General knew when he allowed Blau to go to America that he was to meet one of the heads of the German scent firm there, and that the money Blau got from sales of eau de cologne here would be remitted to the exporters in America, who would pay the head office in Germany. It was absolutely untrue that he knew that Blau would meet the head of the German scent firm in America, and he had never approved of the importation of eau de cologne into Australia.

He accepted the assurance of the Attorney-General that he did not know, but his reasons for assuming that he did know were—first, that he had informed the Minister for the Navy that he had gone very closely into the whole matter before recommending that Blau be allowed to leave Australia; and, secondly, that the papers disclosed that on several occasions his attention had been directed by responsible advisers of the Government to correspondence between Blau and an American firm before that recommendation was given. This was an appendix to the censor's report, to which the honourable gentleman's attention was particularly directed. It was an extract from a letter dated 23rd October, 1914:—

From Julius Blau and Sons, Sydney, to Muhlens and Kropff, New York, asking that arrangements be made for Blau to meet either Muhlens or Lemcke from Cologne in America, when he goes there next January.

As to the payment of money to the German firm, his reason for believing that the Attorney-General must have known that this was the intention is the existence of a letter from Muhlens and Kropff, New York, to J. Blau and Sons, Sydney, dated 15th November, 1914, to which the honourable gentleman's attention was particularly directed by the Defence Department:—

"We acknowledge receipt of your letter of 29th August and have taken due notice of all your remarks. We at once transmitted a copy of your letter to Messrs. Muhlens, in Cologne. In accordance with your request, we cabled you on 23rd September as follows:—'Send letters our care and sight draft on London payable to us.—Muhlens and Kropff.' Of course, it is (self) understood that all remittances for Cologne which you send in our care are for the account of Eau de Cologne and Parfumerie, Fabrik No. 4711, Glochengasse, Cologne, Germany, and for which they will credit your account."

The attention of the Attorney-General was particularly directed to that letter before permission was given to Blau to leave Australia.

The honourable gentleman is reported to have said yesterday:—

Mr. Kelly had further stated that the statutory declaration made by Blau showed that a man named Curtis was Blau's solicitor, and also Blau's son-in-law. The statutory declaration said nothing of the kind.

Mr. Kelly said that he did not say anything of the kind. What he said was that the statutory declaration which the Attorney-General read to the House showed conclusively over Blau's signature that Curtis was Blau's son-in-law.

Mr. Hughes: By way of personal explanation, I wish to say that when permission was given to Blau to visit America I did not know that he proposed to see Muhlens and Kropff. On the contrary. Blau, in his statutory declaration, said that he desired to go to America for the purpose of purchasing plant to manufacture in Australia eau de cologne No. 4711. He declared that he would not, directly or indirectly, communicate, or have anything to do with any German, or with the agent of any German firm, and gave a bond for the fulfilment of that promise. Muhlens and Kropff, I understand, are makers of eau de cologne. It is not correct to say that I knew that Blau was going to meet any member of this firm. Not only did I not know it, but in a statutory declaration Blau was expressly bound to the contrary, and a bond for £6000 was given binding him not to communicate with the firm. The British Consul in New York and Mr. Neilsen were both asked to take steps to ascertain with whom Blau communicated, and what he did in America. On the file to which the honourable member has had access there are reports from detectives, which set out where Blau went and what he did.

Mr. Kelly: Those reports stated that Blau had left San Francisco before the detectives were invited to make an investigation.

Mr. Hughes: That does not apply to the request for an investigation in New York.

Mr. Kelly: That is not clear from the papers.

Mr. Hughes: The honourable member may not have seen the report to which I refer, but it is among the papers. It has been asserted that the evidence against Blau of having traded with the enemy warranted a prosecution, but there is no truth in that statement. No case received more careful consideration than this one. And I was satisfied that proceedings under the Trading with the Enemy Act would not be successful. This opinion was strongly held by Mr. Garran, secretary to the Department, who set out his views

[illegible] and [illegible] the Department as [illegible] with the correspondence forwarded by the [illegible]. It was carefully investigated, a [illegible] was found in the correspondence, and I formed the opinion that there was no evidence whatever to warrant a prosecution for [illegible] with the offence. The Attorney-General, who [illegible] the matter, concurred in this view.

No written opinion was given, because the matter did not appear to the Department to [illegible] advice.

R.R.G., 31/8/15.

Mr. [illegible] asked the Attorney-General [illegible] the Blue papers on the table of the House, [illegible] that this result of opinion as to the facts may be settled?

Mr. Hughes: The Blue papers were made available to honorable members for about a fortnight or three weeks. Honorable members can see them at any time, and I do not propose to lay them on the table of the House, because they contain information that should not be made public. Further, the case is now before the Court, and comments of any kind upon it are out of order.

Proposed Army Pharmaceutical Service.

At the [illegible] annual meeting of the [illegible] Conference, held in London [illegible] at the Hotel [illegible], Major E. Savile Peck, M.V.O., Ph.C., delivered an interesting address on "Pharmacy Organisation and the War," in the course of which he summarised the large amount of work done for the craft for the nation since the war commenced. Major Peck went on to say:

"[illegible] the war, says the [illegible] expert advice upon this matter of the supply of drugs and chemicals, and [illegible] the Pharmaceutical Society. We [illegible] by the President that they were [illegible] the War Office in organising their [illegible] business, and we sincerely hope [illegible] the efforts that are making to show [illegible] the advantage of more trained [illegible] and distribution of [illegible] the Army will be successful. Is it too much to hope that one outcome of this will be to [illegible] a Pharmaceutical Corps instituted [illegible] Director of Pharmaceutical Services at [illegible] War Office establishment? Why not?

"[illegible] this matter of the [illegible] Army with Compounded [illegible] as Pharmacists [illegible] a source of [illegible] proceeds to the [illegible] Army [illegible] much there was [illegible] Pharmaceutical Department [illegible] War Office, and now, as the Secretary of State for War and the Commander-in-Chief [illegible] which [illegible] considered [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

In the Field Hospitals.—The duties would be as in base hospitals, only in a lesser degree, to which might be added water and certain clinical and other analyses. The preparation of solutions to combat the effect of asphyxiating gases. To assist generally in sanitation and disinfection.

I feel that at such a time as this, when there is said to be a serious shortage of medical men, the assistance thus rendered by the trained and experienced pharmacists must result in a consequent relief of some of the duties of the medical officers, and especially of the registrars at the different base hospitals. I maintain, also, that this work done by pharmacists would result in greater all-round efficiency and economy. The Army Pharmaceutical Corps should also have some control in the training and examination of Army compounders in co-operation with a medical officer.

THE QUESTION OF RANK.

This is one which for some years past has exercised the minds of qualified pharmacists not only in this country, but abroad, and I maintain can only be considered in relation to the responsibility and importance of the work he has to perform. In the duties detailed above, he would need the authority of commissioned rank, and it is this authority which is even more important than social status or rate of pay if the work is to be done efficiently. The holding of a pharmaceutical qualification may not of itself be a sufficient recommendation to a commission unless accompanied by an all-round experience in the practice of pharmacy and an ability to take command. The need for such men in the commissioned rank is not so evident at the present time because of the self-sacrificing devotion and patriotism of many pharmacists, who have enlisted and are doing much of this work with the rank of private, corporal, or at the most sergeants or civil dispensers. These men are learning much of the Army routine—the necessary, or unnecessary, forms and procedure, drill, and discipline—and when the time is ripe for reorganisation it is inconceivable that their devotion to duty and successful work should of itself act prejudicially to their proper recognition, but that they may be rewarded by being admitted into the commissioned ranks of his Majesty's Army. Such, then, is my dream of the Army Pharmaceutical Service or Corps as a separate establishment of his Majesty's Army and must be taken as a rough outline of general principles rather than a detailed scheme. There are obvious reasons why I should not go into detail, or put before you particular illustrations.

THE PHARMACISTS' POSITION.

Since writing the above, I have remembered that Surgeon-General Evatt, before an Evening Meeting of the Society in November, 1906, gave an address upon this subject, outlining a scheme of a Pharmaceutical Reserve of Officers. In the course of this address he remarked that his desire was to see—and he was doing his best towards the accomplishment of his ideal—a National Army, and he urged "that when the roll-call of that great Army alluded to was called, the pharmaceutical profession should have its propor position in it as an important factor in its efficiency." We can but echo the sentiments there expressed.

In the course of these remarks I have endeavoured to point out the advantage of national organisation, so that the experts may be found out and utilised in all the branches of national service; the organising ability of pharmacists and the past success of their work; the efforts that individual pharmacists are now making on behalf of their country.

I have tried to outline a scheme in which the special training and experience of the pharmacist can be brought into full play and used for the public good. We have been recently told that it is the "elementary duty of every citizen to place the whole of his strength and resources at the disposal of his native land in its hour of need." It may be presumption upon my part to say so, but I believe that while pharmacists are willing to undertake that which their hand finds to do it is upon the lines I have endeavoured to indicate that the members of our calling consider they can best express their usefulness.

Further Questions re Julius Blau.

The following questions were asked by Mr. W. H. Kelly in the Federal House of Representatives on September 10. The official answers are appended to the questions:—

1. Is the Minister aware that eau de Cologne is manufactured by distillation?

A. I am aware that distillation processes are used in the manufacture.

2. Was he so aware when he granted Mr. Blau permission to visit America ostensibly to buy machinery for manufacture of the particular eau de Cologne sold by him–

A. Yes.

3. Did Mr Blau explain to him the nature of the machinery necessary to manufacture, and why the same was not procurable in Australia; if so, what exactly was the machinery in question?

A. Yes.

4. Was the Minister aware that eau de Cologne was already being manufactured in Australia?

A. I was not aware that it was being manufactured to any considerable extent.

5. Was he aware that Mr. Blau was a trader, not either manufacturer or chemist?

A. Yes. One of the reasons given by Mr. Blau for his wish to go to America was that he wished personally to engage a chemist.

6. Did Mr Blau give him particulars of the capital that would be necessary to start the manufacture of his particular brand of eau de Cologne, how it was to be provided, what labour it would employ, and what profits it would yield?

A. Yes. The capital was to be purely Australian. The amount of capital was stated, the number of persons to be employed, and a time when the manufacture would be commenced.

IMPORTS OF LAXATINE.

1. Is he aware that a shipment of laxatine was landed by Mr. Julius Blau after his recent visit to America?

GOODS OF ENEMY ORIGIN.

Mr [illegible] desired to ask the Attorney-General whether he will cause to be set out in the list which is being circulated at post offices to prevent the carriage of newspapers advertising enemy goods, not only the names of the firms which are tabulated, but also the goods themselves, which are obviously of the most importance. If this be not done the firms will change their names, and the goods will still be advertised. I wish, further, to ask whether to this list the Attorney-General will include the goods of enemy origin and enemy interest operated by Sydney firms, such as Messrs. George Arnold and Company, and Messrs. J. Elliott and Company.

Mr Hughes: The purpose of this embargo is essentially limited. It has relation to those articles which depend for their sale upon extensive advertising. It cannot be effective in regard to drugs, which do not depend upon advertising for their sale. Sometimes, to take a striking case, depends almost entirely upon advertising. I say nothing of its virtues, for I know nothing of them. If we prevent the advertising of such articles we, in effect, prevent its sale. I do not know that I am extending the list to the goods exported by Messrs. George Arnold and Company. I do not know them. I think that Messrs. [illegible] and Company advertise a preparation called Laxative. It is proposed to add that to the list, as it falls into the same class. They do not advertise [illegible], so that it would not be affected. It relates to a question of important [illegible] different class. If the honorable member will supply me with a list of the preparations sold by George Arnold and Company I shall see that if they are of this particular class they are added to the list.

Mr Hughes subsequently announced that in future the usual preliminary advertisements of [illegible] by foreign firms would be retained [illegible] post office. He mentioned Sommogel, Permanent and Laxatone specifics, and said that other goods would be added from time to time.

New South Wales.

(From our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of this Board was held on September 14th. There were present Messrs. E. P. J. Gray (president), and T. S. Loney, L. P. Williams, E. C. Schofield, and Lyon Dixson.

Sales of Carbolic Compounds.—Reports from the police of the Redfern district were received, stating that certain persons said to be selling phenol and other carbolic disinfectants denied the charge.

A Pharmacist Absent.—A notification was received from the police at Port Macquarie, stating that Mr. C. G. Orr had been summoned for leaving his pharmacy in charge of an unqualified man during his absence. The case would come on on the 15th inst.

Apprentice to a Society's Dispensary.—A letter was received from the Crown Law Department, relative to the case in which it was desired by a United Friendly Society Dispensary to take an apprentice, they having a qualified manager. In the opinion of the Crown Law officers this was never contemplated in the Pharmacy Act. In section XL., G. No. 1, provision for any such apprenticeship was not made, and the indentures could not be registered by the Board. It was decided to send the opinion on to the parties concerned.

Allowance to Apprentices.—D. V. Horn, apprentice to Mr. Mallaby, of Tamworth, asked what allowance the Board would grant to apprentices going to the war. Applicant desired to enlist, and asks what consideration the Board could show him. Mr. Gray said that before an apprentice could come up for his final he must serve his full term of three years in open shop. On this no allowance can be made. He might work the term, serving a portion before he goes and the remainder after his return, but the three years must be served, and even if he served as compounder to the A.A.M.C., this would not count, as it was not in open shop. Much as they might like to meet any young man in any matter this was a matter in which they had no choice. Mr. Loney concurred with the president, and said that the applicant would only be serving a private, and they could make no allowance. Application was made by Clarence McElroy, stating that he was going to the war, but had not passed his preliminary examination before being apprenticed. It was resolved to inform applicant that he must comply with the Act.

Protest against an Examiner.—Leonard John Williams wrote, complaining against the decision of the examiner in dispensing, Galenicals, and the Viva Voce. He stated that he answered correctly every question, and did all his work correctly, except that he made a slight error in calculation of the qualities for a dusting pow-

der in the practical dispensing. The Registrar showed specimens of his dispensing work, and stated that the young man had written to Mr. Loney and other members of the Board, complaining of the treatment that he had received, and asked that the decision of the examiner should be re-considered. The specimen of castor oil emulsion was shown, and was evidently faulty, and the directions on the label were incorrect. Mr. Loney stated that his manipulation in dispensing was very faulty, and certainly not good enough to secure a pass. In viva voce he was very weak. Mr. Gray said that he had gone into the matter, and agreed that applicant had evidently failed to come up to the required standard. He had made mistakes of which he was not aware, and hence thought that he was entitled to a pass, when, in the judgment of the examiner, he had failed. Mr. Forster (Registrar) said that as complaints had been made to members of the Board, he thought it right to bring the matter publicly forward, so that the charge might be forthwith investigated.

Mr. Loney said that here was a case in which it would be better if the examiner was not a member of the Board. The examiner should be the paid servant of the Board, and his actions should be open to the strictest criticism. If it was desired, he would retire while the discussion was going on. (No, No.) The whole matter was open to the fullest investigation. If he had a fault, it was on the side of leniency, as he would always rather let a young fellow through than turn him back. If he possibly could strain a point in a candidate's favour he did so. Perhaps this was wrong of him, but certainly he never erred in the direction of being too severe.

Mr. Gray said that he was glad the matter had been brought up, as it showed their confidence in Mr. Loney. At the same time, if a man thought he had a grievance, he had a right to appeal to the Board for redress.

Mr. Dixson proposed—"The claim for a pass made by Mr. Williams having been discussed, the Board are of the opinion that the candidate has no claim to a pass, as his work was not good enough to secure for him the same."—The motion was seconded by Mr. Schofield, and carried.

Paris Green.—Mr. J. E. Ellis, wrote, asking if Paris Green could be sold without a license. Reply: "Yes, as a paint or as an insecticide."

Spurious Aspirin.—Mr. F. Whittle, of Murwillumbah, wrote, stating that a party were hawking tablets of aspirin round the country; they were said to be put up by a "Victorian Drug Co." In his opinion, the tablets were not what they purported to be, and he asked for advice on the matter. Mr. Schofield said that he believed what was being sold was "Salol." It was resolved to advise Mr. Whittle to call the attention of the local Inspector of the Board of Health to the matter, and no doubt steps would be taken to prosecute the offender.

Absent from His Pharmacy.—A country pharmacist complained that his opponent was frequently absent from his business. He stated that the offending pharmacist was in partnership with a bookmaker, and left his shop to look after his interests on the turf. His shop meanwhile was open, and in charge of an unqualified person. Mr. Gray said that he was afraid that business rivalry sometimes prompted complaints. Here was a case, however, that the offender had been cautioned, and they must now allow the police to deal with the matter. It was resolved to call the attention of the local police to the case, and if any further offence was committed the police were instructed to take prompt action.

Matter Brought Before the Board.—The Registrar said that a number of matters had been brought up at that meeting on which formerly he had acted upon the instructions of the president. He had not had an opportunity of consulting the president prior to this meeting, and therefore they were brought before the Board. This also would show malcontents that the Board really had a lot of business when all was dealt with at Board meetings. Mr. Gray said that he saw no reason why the former method of procedure should be departed from. He would deal with minor matters, and instruct the Registrar. This would save the time of the Board. The system had been found to work satisfactorily hitherto, and he saw no reason for departing from the practice of his predecessors. He was glad, however, that the Registrar had brought the matter up, as pharmacists would have a better idea of the nature and extent of the business dealt with directly by the officers of the Board.

Books for Preliminary Exam.—Mr. W. H. W. Nicholls, preliminary examiner, wrote, saying that the books for the preliminary examinations for the year 1916 will be Caesar de Bello Gallico, Book V., and Scott's Lady of the Lake, Canto 2.

Registration under the Pharmacy Act. — H. W. Jones, of Albury (Ph.C. of Vic.); R. C. Dalrymple, of Mullumbimby (Ph.C. of Q.); Julius J. Simon, of Lismore (C. and D. of G.B.); and T. G. Johnston, of Summer Hill (C. and D. of G.B.).

Registration Granted. Licence for the sale of poisons as pharmacists were also granted to the same applicants. William Green, of Delegate, applied for registration, and produced certain documents to substantiate his claim. The Registrar pointed out that the date for making any such claim had long ago expired, and that, according to the terms of the Pharmacy Act, the applicant had no claim. It was resolved that a letter be sent to that effect.

A Changed Name.—A letter was read from Mr. Arthur Phillips, solicitor, of Melbourne, calling attention to the change of name of Mr. Leon Horwitz to Leon Howard, and asking the board to note the change, which had been legally effected. It was resolved to call in the documents in the name of Leon Horwitz, and issue fresh papers in the name of Leon Howard. Mr. Gray said that they had had similar applications previously, in cases where women pharmacists changed their name by marriage, and in one case where a man changed the spelling of his name.

Local Pharmacy Agreements.—Three annual [illegible] was received and was renewed.

Registration of Trade Mark.—The following were received and registered:—J. M. McGlom, to [illegible] Haberfield, 3 years; P. F. Depot to Mayne and Williams, of Annandale, term 3 years; W. P. Jones to C. R. Bishop, of Petersham term 3 years; M. D. Justice to S. C. Parker, of Sydney, 3 years; C. R. Thompson to A. Rogers of Leichhardt, term 3 years; S. F. Smarmer to Pattinson and Spencer, 4 years; M. [illegible] Merton to E. L. C. Schofield, of Woollahra, term 3 years; Roland George Smith to W. M. Evans, of Castlereagh, term 3 years. Mr. Loney remarked that there appeared to be no dearth of apprentices coming forward in the business. This was the longest roll of registrations that had been before them for a considerable time.

Complaint Against a Member of the Board.—The Registrar reported that an information had been formally laid with him against a member of the board for failing to properly label a bottle of Easton's Syrup Labs. The bottle was not labelled poison, with the name and address of the seller. He asked for instructions from the board what steps he should take in the matter.

Mr. James Dixson said that he was the culprit, but [illegible] the bottle appeared to have been obtained from his shop. He would like to know the name of the party who laid the information.

The Registrar said that it was not usual to divulge this.

Mr. Dixson contended that the board had a right to have all facts laid before it. The information, if in writing, should be read to the board.

The Registrar said that the information was a confidential communication, and was confidential.

Mr. Gray said that as president he would like to take legal advice before he divulged the name of the informant.

Mr. Dixson said that at the next board meeting he would move that the full facts be laid before the board. If he had been in error, he was sorry for it; but if the matter was [illegible] inferior motive, he should take the opportunity of showing the same to the world. He would let it the worst was an error.

The Registrar pointed out that Mr. Dixson [illegible] dwelling as poisons, as sold [illegible] instead of with his name and address.

Mr. Dixson contended that he had a perfect right to do so. He had been in the habit of [illegible] the label of E. L. Sloper, and that [illegible] He had taken [illegible] and believed that he was [illegible] rules.

It was resolved to refer the matter to the Board of Health, as being a matter in this [illegible]

A letter was received from the Secretary of the P.D.L., Melbourne, in which it was suggested that in view of the proposed Royal Commission being appointed to inquire regarding the Army Medical Service, each State might with advantage collect such evidence as possible dealing with the preparation and apparatus for the cure of catarrh were being sold in Sydney for 25s., and booklets were being widely distributed. This booklet contains spurious testimonials, addresses of people are given in cases where there is no such number in the street, and where a correct address is given there is no trace of the person supposed to have resided there. In fact, he could positively state that no such person ever did live at the address in one instance. He thought that the board should take steps in the matter.

Mr. Dixson said that the only way would be to purchase samples of the preparation, and have the same analysed. If poison was found, then would be the time to institute proceedings.

A member of the board suggested that the Board of Health was the proper authority to deal with the case.

Mr. Schofield said that he did not think that they should refer to another board work that came within their province. It may be that the matter of fraudulent testimonials would come within the scope of the Board of Health work, but if these people were illegally selling poisons the Pharmacy Board were the proper persons to take proceedings.

The Registrar was instructed to make the necessary inquiries, and take steps to obtain samples, and have the same submitted to the Government analyst.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The usual meeting of Council was held on September 14th. There were present—Messrs. F. P. J. Gray, Ll. P. Williams, E. E. C. Schofield, and S. V. Penrose. In the absence of the president, Mr Gray occupied the chair.

Letters Addressed to the Secretary.—The secretary (Mr. V. Forster) said that pharmacists continually addressed letters to the Secretary of the Pharmacy Board dealing with matters concerning the Society. He would like publicity to be given to this matter, as it was highly desirable to keep the correspondence and business of the board quite distinct from that of the Society.

Dispensing for the Wounded.—The secretary stated that he had received a number of opinions on the matter, but that more were coming in.

Pharmacists at Conference.—The secretary reported that at the conference held on September 1st, the matter of the new Articles of Association was fully discussed, and several minor amendments were agreed to. The articles as amended were referred back to their solicitors to be put in proper form, and would be submitted to a special meeting of members to be called by the council.

Pharmacists' Military Service.—A letter was read from the Secretary of P.D.L., Melbourne, in which it was suggested that in view of the proposed Royal Commission being appointed to inquire regarding the Army Medical Service, each State might with advantage collect such evidence as possible dealing

with the manner in which pharmacists had been treated in connection with the A.M.C. If only this could be got together, and reliable evidence secured, a very good case could be put before a Commission which might be appointed. A hope was expressed that the Society assist in the matter as far as may be in the members' power.

The letter was formally received, and it was resolved to render what assistance was possible.

New Members.—A. Macintosh Boyne, of Sydney, and David Dunn, of Narrandera, applied for membership, and were ballotted for and declared duly elected

Benevolent Fund Grant.—Mrs. Foot applied for a further grant, and the sum of £5 was voted to be paid in instalments.

Revised Articles of Association.—The secretary reported that he had received back the revised Articles of Association from Messrs. Sly and Russell. In the letter accompanying the lawyers explained that there was no need to specify male or female pharmacists as eligible for membership, as any person who holds qualification is eligible for membership.

Treasurer's Statement.—The accounts showed £800 8s. 3d. to the credit of the Society. The amount in the Benevolent Fund stands at £14 9s. 4d. Accounts amounting to £25 13s. 11d. were passed for payment.

Conference of Pharmacists.

The President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales called a conference of members of the Pharmaceutical Society to consider the proposed alterations in the Articles of Association of the Society. The meeting was held at the Protestant Hall on September 1st. There were fourteen members of the Society present, and Mr. A. Wadsworth occupied the chair. Copies of the proposed altered articles having been sent to members, Mr. Wadsworth briefly explained that the object of the meeting was to discuss and alter the draft of the articles before the meeting which would be called for the final adoption. If any member had any alteration to bring forward, now was the time, as at the meeting called to formally adopt the new articles the motion would be to adopt the same in globo.

A considerable discussion ensued, and members proposed a few verbal alterations, but all proposals were of a minor character. For instance, some members had a doubt if the articles made proper provision for women members. Mr. Wadsworth said that the articles would be referred back to the Society's solicitors in order that the proposed amendments, which were unanimously agreed upon, should be made, and in due course the meetings to adopt the new articles, and to confirm the adoption of the same would be held.

The meeting was in many respects a disappointing one, as it was expected that a far larger number of pharmacists would have shown their interest in the Society by attending the meeting.

One of the Council remarked, "We may, however, take the view that the members are so well satisfied with what the Council has done, that they do not consider that any interference on their part is necessary." This probably really accounts for the small attendance.

Mr. Wadsworth said recently, "I wish to emphasise the fact that what was done at this meeting was done unanimously. We met the wants of the members who proposed alterations in every way in our power, and when they were wrong, we convinced them of their mistake, while we altered what might have been merely a difference of opinion."

Trade Fair.

Sir Gerald Strickland opened a Trade Fair in the large hall over the No. 6 and 7 Jetties on the Circular Quay on September 1st, before a large gathering of prominent Sydney merchants and their friends. Mr. Parkes, chairman of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, presided, and after giving a brief sketch of the events which led up to the holding first of an exhibition of enemy goods in common use in Sydney, and the now holding a similar exhibition of goods made in Australia or in other parts of the British Empire, and in Allied countries, he asked His Excellency to declare the exhibition formally open. Sir Gerald Strickland, in doing so, urged his hearers to do all in their power to foster their own industries, to support British manufacturers, and to send their trade to the countries of the Allies, but never again to help to build up German manufacturers' business, which had proved such a snare to the Empire.

The exhibition consisted chiefly of articles made in the Commonwealth, but British, French, Belgian and a few American exhibits were also to be seen. Generally we may say that exhibits from neutral nations were conspicuous by their absence.

On behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. F. P. J. Gray has been busy for some time collecting information, and inducing local agents and manufacturers to send a good exhibit. Elliott Brothers Limited occupied 50 feet of front space, and made a fine display of their own manufactures, both of acids, chemical salts, bismuth and mercury obtained from Australian ores, together with their salts used in medicine, chemical apparatus both made in Japan and also made in their own workshops. A specially fine display was made of proprietary articles and perfumery made at the Rozelle Laboratories. There were also good exhibits from Messrs. Burroughs, Welcome, Parke, Davis and Co., Faulding and Co., Lever Brothers, Yardley, Piver, The Australian Drug Company, Messrs. Sayers Allport Proprietary, and H. B. Silberberg and Co Limited, of Melbourne and Sydney. Kodak (Australia) Limited had a remarkably fine display of Australian-made photographic goods.

During the exhibition, which was open from the 1st to the 18th of September, a number of pharmacists attended, and explained to visitors the various exhibits specially connected with a pharmacist's business.

A Doctor Struck Off.

The Medical Board of New South Wales sat on [illegible] to hold an inquiry into the conduct of Dr. Neil Sutherland. The Board consisted of Dr. Sydney Sellers Jones, M.D. (President), Drs. Clifton Mather, G. Hoist, R. H. Todd, and J. H. Abbott (Registrars). Mr. Arthur Kenel, [illegible] Pure Food Act, was the prosecutor, and he was represented by Mr. Bathgate, of the Crown Law Department. Appeared: Dr. Sutherland. Mr. [illegible] appeared on his own behalf. Mr. A. Lee Hough gave evidence to the effect that he visited the College of Health, 54 Oxford street. A brass plate informed him that the College and the Curative Institute were open for business there. On the occasion of his first visit he saw a notice that the establishment was under medical supervision, and he met Dr. Sutherland there, who told him that he was the medical superintendent of the establishment. He recommended the use of the Orange Lily remedies. Later, he again visited the College and Dr. Sutherland told him that he was employed at a salary of £500 per annum, but that [illegible] was made to patients. He inquired into the treatment and saw that Orange Lily was recommended and used as a part of the treatment.

Analyses of the various drugs used was put in by Drs. Worrall, Palmer, and Cleland, who gave evidence to show that the remedies were useless or harmful.

Dr. Sutherland, in his defence, stated that he had been in practice a number of years, and had not succeeded in obtaining a competency. He had considered the temptation was a great one. He could not, therefore, throw himself on the mercy of the Board. He [illegible] no further reasons for the [illegible] of his offence. He had joined and formed the Ladies' College of Health. He regretted the matter, and had not intended to [illegible] the Board or the public. He had taken the step from necessity, which drove him to do [illegible] he had adopted for a living.

The Board found the defendant guilty of infamous conduct in a professional sense, and ordered that his name be erased from the medical register.

The Board of Health and the War.

Since the beginning of the war 52 members of the Board of Health had gone abroad either as combatants or otherwise, and the sum of £9,000 was spent annually on the staff towards the [illegible] provision. A resolution to two members of the Board, Dr. Pure Food Act, W. H. [illegible] Dr. Paton, congratulating them on their loyalty and service to the country, stated that they had taken a very active part in recruiting work. In two weeks 3520 men had been enlisted from their district.

Manufacturers' Week in Sydney.

The Council of the Chamber of Manufactures has decided that "Manufacturers' Week for Sydney [illegible] September 6th to the 11th, but there [illegible] to push the movement, and it is probable that the Chamber of Commerce will [illegible] their Exhibition of Light Clothing from the 1st to September 11th, and [illegible] working well for the latter [illegible] the manufacturers' week also [illegible]

The principal window displays consist of clothing and textile fabrics, pottery, boots and shoes, metal work, pianos, electro-plate ware, hats, paints, and colour printing. The chemists make a good display of proprietary articles, but there is [illegible] similarity between many of the regular window displays with the ordinary business display that they do not attract the attention which should be one of the marked features of a Manufacturers' Week. The effort to capture trade for Australian manufacturers is certainly marred by the attempt to combine therewith the attempt to capture trade from the Germans for the Allies, including Australian manufacturers. The fact is that many Australian manufacturers look askance at the encouragement given to the Japanese, and they argue that if the trade is taken away from the Germans and given to the Japanese, Australia will only be substituting one evil for another in a measure, as the Japs will probably prove a stronger competitor against the Australian manufacturer than the German ever was. While the Manufacturers' Week is intended to boom only Australian goods, the exhibition has goods from neutral as well as allied nations, and these are pushing their lines in competition against goods made in Australia. German beer is "taboo" now in Sydney.

Of the goods specially interesting to pharmacists there have been a fair show of crude chemicals, disinfectants, perfumery, glassware and toilet and proprietary articles. All of these lines are taking very well with the public in New South Wales.

Military Equipments.

Recently extensive contracts have been placed by the Defence Department with Mr. G. H. Olding, whose works on the Parramatta Road now keep 900 employees busy turning out gun and ammunition waggons, ambulance waggons, wicker cases for holding shell, and a number of other requisites for the Department. At the present there are fifteen ambulance waggons in the course of construction, and already there have been 600 of the firm's ammunition waggons sent to the front. The particular pattern of bullet proof 18 pounder ammunition waggons and limbers turned out at these works have received special commendation. Of the employees 50 had enlisted, and this was unfortunate, as probably their work at the factory was quite as useful to the Commonwealth as would be their fighting at the front. The equipments built have the approval of the Woolwich Arsenal, and are in every respect in accordance with the requirements of the Imperial authorities.

Adulterated Spirits.

A number of publicans round Sydney have been recently prosecuted for selling adulterated spirits. In no case, however, has there been discovered any addition of water to the liquors, as the spirit seems to have been duly matured and not made with [illegible] or immature spirit. In many cases the addition has been only slightly over the proper quantity of water, and it has arisen from the careless use of the hydrometer or the use of an inaccurate instrument. Fines from £1 to £10 have been imposed. Temperance people

are fond of asserting that a quantity of adulterated liquor is sold in Sydney, and it is satisfactory to know that the only adulterant that can be proven is that of the Sydney Water Supply.

Trading With the Enemy.

Richard Thompson, of the firm Bruck, Thompson and Co., was charged with attempting to trade with the enemy, by means of letters, etc. The charge was finally disposed of at the Water Police Court on September 2nd before Mr. Barnett, S.M. Two attempts were proven, in which defendant firm attempted to trade with German makers, through Swedish firms. A fine of £50, and ten guineas costs, was imposed in each case. The charges against Bruck were withdrawn, as defendant committed suicide by taking a dose of 10 grains of morphine during the adjournment of the case. The business done by this firm consists chiefly of surgical instruments and medical books. They do little in the way of drugs. The firm in Germany with whom the attempt to trade was made was A. Rusch and Co., of Rommelshauser, Germany.

Poisoning Cases.

Carbolic Poisoning.—Cases of poisoning with carbolic disinfectants are still very frequent, four having taken place in three weeks. This is attributed partly to the ease with which these preparations may be bought at any little grocer's shop in any of the suburbs round Sydney. No attempt is made to enforce the Poisons Act, and it is more than probable that when any attempt is made to amend the Act disinfectants will be excluded from its operations, as the law prohibiting their sale is a dead letter.

Morphia Poisoning.—A strange case of death from morphia poisoning recently came to light. An inquest was held on September 7 on the body of William Walker, aged 24, who died from morphia poisoning at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, on August 28. Deceased was admitted on August 7, and was under treatment for the morphia habit. Medical evidence was given that, in spite of all precautions while in the hospital, the man continued to be supplied with the drug. Three hypodermic syringes were taken from him, and though he was carefully watched and his bed changed frequently, he continued to get and take the drug in doses up to six grains. The doctors came to the conclusion that he was in collusion with other patients, through whom he obtained the drug. No satisfactory explanation was forthcoming to account for how he got the drug otherwise. The Coroner returned a verdict of death by morphia poisoning, self-administered.

General.

Patriotic Social.—A social gathering was held at the Burlington Cafe in aid of the funds for the Australian heroes, by the employees of Elliott Brothers Limited, on the evening of September 6. The entertainment was arranged by a committee of ladies connected with the office staff, and Mr. E. Wilis, who has been President of the Recreation Club in connection with the employees, acted as M.C. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and there was an attendance of about 200 employees and their friends. It is expected that about £10 will be added to the funds raised by the employees for patriotic purposes. It is expected that before long the employees and the firm will present a very up-to-date ambulance for use of the Australian wounded. A collection for this object has been started, and is being well supported.

Sydney University has sent a lot of its staff, graduates and students to the war. 18 have been killed in action or died of wounds, and 20 others have been wounded. Over 600 in all have enlisted.

Mr. H. P. Sabiel, pharmacist, of Hunter Street, Sydney, has written to the daily press disclaiming any disloyal sympathy or sentiments. He says that his eldest son left a good practice in Sydney to enlist in the Australian Army Medical Corps. His wife is an English lady, and his sons were educated at Sydney University. He considers that he has been hardly treated.

Hospital Saturday Fund.—The 21st annual meeting of this fund was held at the Town Hall, Sydney, on September 6th, and grants amounting in all to £10,000 were paid out to the various hospitals within the metropolitan area. The State Governor, Sir Gerald Strickland, presided, and the cheques were presented by Miss Strickland. A large and influential committee was elected for the ensuing year.

Dispensing for the Wounded.

Discussion by New South Wales Pharmacists.

A meeting was called on August 20th, at the Board Room, Richmond-terrace, The Domain, Sydney, by the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, of representatives of local Pharmacists' Associations to discuss the proposals for dispensing for the returned wounded soldiers. Mr. A. Wadsworth was in the chair, and there was only a small attendance.

Mr. Wadsworth said that the Military authorities desired to make provision for the supply of medicines and dressings required by returned soldiers who had been allowed to return to their homes and friends, and who did not live in a district where there was a military hospital. Each soldier would be provided with a card showing that he was entitled to medical attendance and medicines, etc. The Director General of Medical Service, Colonel G. H. Featherston, had written stating that he would be glad to receive suggestions as to how the wants of the soldiers could best be supplied in any State. The Department was prepared to pay any reasonable rate either in a lump sum or at a rate per prescription. Major Crawford Robertson was the staff officer for invalids in New South Wales, and he had been instructed to communicate with the Society on the matter. It was proposed at the meeting to agree to some proposal which would be submitted to the Department. It was understood that the Department did not intend

to supply patent medicines or proprietary articles or dressings to the invalids.

Mr. Wadsworth said that a telegram had been received from the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society in Melbourne suggesting that a dispensing fee of one shilling be charged plus the cost of drugs containers, etc., based on invoice price or current price lists. Dressing to be charged 25 per cent. advance on wholesale price list. He understood that the Department desired to adopt a simple and practical scheme for dealing with the matter.

The Department had arranged with the medical profession as to the medical attendance of returned soldiers living outside the area of military hospitals. Previously pharmacists had announced their willingness to do the dispensing free of charge, but this was provided for the military hospitals by the appointment of dispensers on the staff. What was required now was to make provision for cases outside the reach of these hospitals. This was a matter which would affect pharmacists in country districts more than city pharmacists. All chemists throughout the State would more or less be affected by the agreement made, and not merely the members of the Society; and for this reason he had called the meeting of others than the Council of the Society to discuss the matter.

Mr. Price said that he considered a flat rate out of the question. Mr. Manning had worked out the cost of a large number of prescriptions, and had come to the conclusion that the dispensing cost was about ninepence a prescription.

Mr. Wadsworth said that at the present time they had all branches of trades unions claiming more for their labour, and pharmacists in this respect should not be worse off than other trades and professions.

Mr. McKenzie recommended the adoption of the proposals as received from Victoria. This motion was seconded by Mr. Price, and carried.

Mr. Wadsworth said that they had next to consider the details of the plan. The man was provided with a card which showed that he was entitled to medical attendance at the cost of the Department. The card he took to the local doctor appointed to deal with such cases. From the doctor he got his prescription, which he presented to the chemist, together with the card showing that he was entitled to have his dispensing done at the cost of the Department. The dispenser would keep the prescription as an order from the doctor. Every time the prescription had to be repeated a fresh visit would have to be paid to the doctor, and a fresh order obtained from him showing that the medicine was required. The chemist would send in a monthly account to the Department, together with the doctor's orders for the medicines supplied.

Mr. Dick suggested that the wounded soldiers should have a small book in which what was required should be entered. He deprecated giving away what everything cost the chemist. It was not wise to publish details too freely.

Mr. Manning said that the chemist should keep the prescriptions, the doctor should see the patient each time he required more medicine, and authorise the repetition of the prescription if necessary. He considered that to charge the cost plus a dispensing fee would involve an immense amount of clerical work computing the costs. He had done this for many hundreds of prescriptions, and knew the immense labour of so doing. He advocated the adoption of a flat rate.

Mr. Wadsworth pointed out that as Mr. Manning came late to the meeting the matter had been decided in his absence. They had decided to adopt the proposal of a dispensing fee of one shilling, and the charge plus the cost of the drugs supplied had been carried. They were now considering how this system could be best carried out.

Mr. McKimm said that in his opinion the dispenser should keep the prescription and send on duplicates. He should receive from the doctor a duplicate of any prescription that was to be repeated.

Mr. Manning said that they little knew what they were letting themselves in for. The cost in labour of calculating out the costs of the ingredients of each prescription would be very considerable.

Mr. Dick said that in most instances an approximation would be all that would be necessary. The department would not take the trouble of calculating out whether the ingredients of a prescription cost fourpence or fivepence.

Mr. McKimm said that as he understood matters the soldier presented his card from the department to the doctor who supplied him with a prescription, the soldier next presented his card and the prescription to the pharmacist, who supplied the medicine, retaining the prescription as his receipt for the delivery of the goods. If the prescription was to be repeated, this could only be done by a repeat prescription from the doctor. To receive payment, the pharmacist had to send in his account to the department monthly, with copies of prescriptions showing what had been supplied on the doctor's orders.

Mr. Wadsworth said that he thought that they had now obtained the opinion of the meeting of the representatives outside the Council of the Society. He was sorry that more members of the Council were not present, but he would lay the views expressed by those present before the Council at their next meeting.

Mr. Manning asked the chairman to note his objection, as he was sure that the computation of the cost of ingredients would prove a difficulty that they did not at present realise. It would encumber the pharmacist with an immense amount of unnecessary clerical work. Mr. Wadsworth said that he would bear the matter in mind, but thought that they would not experience the difficulties as suggested.

The meeting then adjourned.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on September 15th.

Present.—The President, Mr. C. E. Towl (in the chair), and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes and Sayer.

Correspondence.—

Letters Nos. 810 to 912 were minuted, and included the following:—

To the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, expressing gratification that it was not intended to grant registration rights to Army compounders.

Ontario College of Pharmacy, forwarding reciprocity agreement duly executed.

Grocers' Association and the Disinfectant Manufacturers' Association, in reference to the sale of phenyle by hawkers.

Chief Secretary, certifying to the eligibility of Messrs. J. H. Lakeland, R. E. Holdsworth and B. J. Franklin to receive permits to sell opium.

Mr. R. M. Tulloh, Morwell, notifying that as there was a chemist in business in that town, he was not eligible to obtain a license under the Poisons Act.

Mr. C. V. Browne, Dimboola, stating that the only manner in which a medical practitioner could become registered as a pharmaceutical chemist was by undergoing the prescribed curriculum and passing the necessary examinations.

Mr. Charles Davey, Morwell, notifying that he was acting illegally in distributing strychnine to the members of the local Rabbit League.

Mr. John Hall, Morwell, warning him that if he continued to sell Fellow's Syrup, a preparation of strychnine, proceedings would be taken against him.

Mr. W. T. Pinches, Prahran, intimating that the Board could accept apprenticeship served in New Zealand to a registered chemist. If three years only had been served, it would be necessary to complete a further year in Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of New Zealand, asking whether the Board recognised apprenticeship served in Great Britain and Ireland. To be informed that it had always been the practice of the Board to accept apprenticeship to any registered chemist, provided that the term of service was not less than four years, and that the application was supported by the usual statutory declarations.

Mr. W. Dawson, Stawell, applied for an extension of the permit granted to him to carry on the business of his late father, under the management of a registered chemist. It was resolved that an extension be granted to the 15th of March, 1916, and that Mr. Dawson be informed that the business must be disposed of before that date, as no further extension could be granted.

Mr. J. G. Abercrombie, Armadale, wrote, asking whether a firm who handled and manufactured chemical products was permitted to use the title of "Manufacturing Chemists." To be informed that the question had not been decided by the Victorian Courts, although in Great Britain penalties had been imposed for the improper use of the title by unregistered chemists. If the title were used in connection with a retail business, the Board would consider it an infringement of the Medical Act.

Dr. Geo. Eadie, Beaufort, in reply to a communication bringing under notice the fact that the Beaufort Pharmacy owned by him was being carried on contrary to the provisions of the Medical Act, wrote stating that he was negotiating for the sale of the business. He also stated that he was quite ignorant of the fact that he was infringing the Act. The Registrar reported that since this letter had been received Mr. R. Chessman had called on him, and stated that he had purchased the business from Dr. Eadie.

Mr. Wm. Green, Delegate N.S.W., wrote in reference to having his name restored to the Pharmaceutical Registrar, and also applied for a certificate of identity under the reciprocity agreement. To be informed that his application had been held over for some time pending receipt of further evidence as to his identity, and pointing out that even if his name were restored to the Pharmaceutical Register of Victoria, he would not be eligible to registration in New South Wales on his Victorian certificate, as he had not passed the final qualifying examination.

A country chemist wrote, asking what steps he should take to compel his apprentice to return to her duties. She had absented herself on the plea of illness, and had gone to another town, where she was endeavouring to secure a position. A reply was sent stating that the apprentice had no right to be absent without the consent of the master. If she was in ill-health she should produce a doctor's certificate to that effect. The chemist was advised to write to her asking her to return to duty. If she refused to do so, she was breaking the indentures, and the matter could be dealt with by the court. The time she had served would then be lost.

Mr. F. V. Bankes, Sydney, wrote, asking for particulars regarding the Victorian course. He had had experience in Paris, Rome, Malta, Calcutta and Java, and had taken the qualification necessary in these places. The Registrar stated that he had forwarded full information to Mr. Bankes, stating that if the evidence he had submitted was substantiated, he would be eligible to sit for the intermediate and final examination.

Mr. J. E. Crimmins wrote, intimating that he had joined the Expeditionary Force, and was attached, as Corporal, to the A.M.C. unit at Bendigo.

Mr. B. Corr, Johannesburg, wrote, asking whether a Transvaal qualification was acceptable in Victoria. To be informed that the Board had power to accept colonial diplomas, but that evidence as to course of training and standard of the examination would require to be furnished before the Board could express an opinion on the matter.

Messrs. McCay and Thwaites, Castlemaine, wrote, stating that they hoped the business of

the Law Merchant Meeting would be convened [illegible] the call of the chair.

Mr. [illegible] through its secretary, complained that the Customs Department had [illegible] on the importation and sale of [illegible] Resolved that Mr. Howard be asked to [illegible] with a view to find that the Board's [illegible] was strictly that the [illegible] could be legally made.

A country chemist wrote, asking whether Grimault's Asthma Cigarettes could be sold by storekeepers. It was decided to reply stating that as these cigarettes contained belladonna and strychnine in poisonous quantities, they could only be sold by registered chemists.

Messrs. J. K. Gordon, Toorak, and Dr. [illegible] Rose, Ewart, wrote, asking to have their students examinations during their term of active service. In each case the consent of the master had been received. The applications were granted.

The Chief Secretary, Ministry of Industry for South Australia, wrote asking to be supplied with copies of the Official Digest of the Pharmacopœia. These were furnished, together with information regarding the cost of the publication.

The New Zealand Pharmacy Board wrote stating that the book had caused favorable comment, and they desired to purchase 1000 copies. A reply was sent stating that the type had been destroyed, and no further copies were therefore available. It was suggested, however, that the New Zealand Government might see its way to reprint the book. To this end, the authors would have no objection.

A number of other letters were received, asking for copies of the Digest might be furnished. The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania applied for [illegible] copies.

The Secretary said that he had been able to furnish them out of the small surplus which the Patriotic Medal Association was left [illegible] hand.

Inter-State Correspondence.—A communication was received from the Hon. the Premier enclosing that the letter addressed to the Lord President of the Privy Council in reference to the proposed [illegible] of Army Commanders and Matrons, Half Assistants, Dentists and Orderlies to Great Britain had been forwarded to the Governor for transmission to the Privy Council through the usual channel.

Deputation re Dispensers.—Mr. Edward Mayhew, [illegible] the Pharmaceutical Society of West Australia, [illegible] to bringing under notice an advertisement of the Defence Department asking for applications for the position of matron of the Royal Military College Hospital at Duntroon. The advertisement stated that one of the requirements was that the matron should be a registered dispenser. Mr. Mayhew said he thought that the Federal Department should conform to the State requirements in connection with the appointment of qualified pharmacists as dispensers in public institutions. Years ago he obtained an undertaking from the Western Australian Government that, wherever possible, registered men only would be employed in State institutions. This had been adhered to. He further stated that great dissatisfaction was being expressed in Western Australia regarding the pharmaceutical arrangements at the base hospitals. It was resolved that the attention of the department should again be drawn to the matter, and the Registrar was instructed to endeavor to arrange for an interview with Colonel Shepherd in reference thereto.

Registrations.—Mr. Eric Edgar Morris, Campbell's, Final examination (N.S.W.), applied for registration under the reciprocity agreement. Mr. Arthur E. S. Vernon, High street, Glen Iris, applied to have his name restored to the pharmaceutical register. The applications were granted.

Assignments of Indentures Registered.—Wallace G. Jewkes to W. M. Jewkes, Essendon; Leslie J. V. Brotchie to Geo. Francis, Melbourne; Robert K. M. Donald to R. S. Younger, Warrnambool; Kenneth M. Rushbrook and Stanley E. Featherstone to V. J. Rushbrook, Geelong.

Poisons Licenses.—Poisons licenses were issued to Andrew Lindy, Erica; John Fraser, Serviceton; Margaret O'Riordan, Kooweerup, and J. C. Walbran, Kalgoorlie.

Appointment of Managers.—The following notifications were received in reference to the appointment of managers at dispensaries and branch pharmacies:—

D. I. S. Dispensary, Brighton (E. L. Holdsworth).
D. I. S. Dispensary, Footscray (E. D. Meldrum).
Nicholas White, Melbourne (Hy. Williamson).
Frodk. Danvers, Woodend (E. H. M'K. Grant).
John Parker, Elwood (Alec K. Barker).
Frodk. Danvers, Ripponlea (W. J. Perry).
Cathedral Co., St. Kilda (H. H. W. Mann).
F. and H. Sutcliffe, Collingwood (C. J. Fraser).
J. F. Hughes, Melbourne (V. C. Lewis).
Jas. Young, Bunbury (K. S. Green).
Merton and Pettarlee, Moonee Ponds (E. Potter).
G. M. J. Cole, Sea Lake (W. H. Murray).
O. J. Lawson, Fitzroy (Andrew Smith).
W. V. Lyndon, Bendigo (Pierce Butler).

Police Report.—A report was received from the police in connection with a fatal case of strychnine poisoning at Inverloch. Although every enquiry had been made, the police were unable to ascertain where the strychnine had been purchased. The President said the frequency with which cases of this kind were reported showed that strychnine was not being sold in accordance with the Act. It was evident that there was a good deal of laxity in the supply of the poison in certain quarters. It was decided to make further enquiries in regard to the matter.

Dispensers at Police Hospital.—The Chief Secretary forwarded a report by Dr. J. W. O'Brien, acting police surgeon, in reference to the appointment of an unqualified dispenser at the Police Hospital, St. Kilda road, concerning which the Board had submitted a protest. The Chief Secretary stated that in view of the facts, as set out in the report, he was perfectly satisfied with Dr. O'Brien's choice.

Mr. Buckhurst said that, had a more adequate salary been offered, there would have been more qualified pharmacists applying for the position. One of the applicants whom he knew withdrew his application on account of the small salary offered.

It was decided to acknowledge the receipt of the communication, at the same time pointing out that in fairness to registered pharmacists an adequate salary should be offered for positions of this nature. As Mr. Marrison's appointment had been confirmed, it was suggested that he should be asked to complete his qualification within a stated time, failing which fresh applications should be invited.

Sale of Phenyle by Hawkers.—The Registrar reported that the Superintendent of Police inserted a notice in the "Police Gazette," asking the police in every suburb to caution hawkers against the sale of phenyle in bulk. He understood that this had been done, as a number of hawkers had made inquiries respecting the special class of bottles which the Act required to be used.

New Regulations.—Further consideration was given to the regulations under the Poisons Act. The Board considered that some of the present regulations should be made more explicit, and that there should also be additional regulations gazetted regarding the safe custody of poisons. It was resolved that the proposed new regulations be drafted and submitted to the solicitor for opinion.

Reports of Inspector.—The inspector furnished reports of visits made by him to Morwell and Seymour. At the former place he had visited several storekeepers, and also a person, who was acting as secretary of a Rabbit League, and who was selling strychnine. He found that there was a good deal of ignorance regarding the requirements of the Poisons Act. He cautioned each of the persons he visited. He felt sure that in future the Act would be strictly observed. At Seymour he called on two storekeepers, and purchased a bottle of Fellow's Syrup, and a packet of Pitt's wheat. The Registrar was authorised to take proceedings in the two latter cases.

September Examinations—The following reports were received from the examiners:—

Preliminary Examination (28 candidates), held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Maryborough, Portland, Bairnsdale and Hobart, on September 1 and 2. Felix Tattam, Marjorie Norman, Fredk. Barker, Greta V. Mercer, Donald A. Gross, Fredk. B. Nurnberg, Vera M. Haigh, Havill J. Nolan Maud Macgillivray, J. R. Varian, Violet E. Mercer, Vera Smith, Benjamin Davis, Veronica Whelan, Florence M. Seaton, Dorothy F. Ariell, Albert Dorman. Eligible to take Geometry at a subsequent examination—Herbert C. Morieson.

Final Qualifying Examination (18 candidates)—Douglas E. Towl, Elizabeth L. Burton, Harold B. Keig, Alex. B. Murie, Irene M. Hearne, Albert R. Parratt. Eligible to take Section III at a subsequent examination—Alfred L. Hore

The examiners reports were received and adopted.

Report re Quack Medicines.—The Chief Secretary forwarded to the Board for report, a communication which had been addressed to him by a pharmacist, regarding the sale of certain proprietary medicines, which were being largely advertised in the public press. He stated that the advertisements were so worded that when the public went to the pharmacist for a particular medicine, they were induced to believe they were getting something of an extraordinary nature, for which they paid very high prices, whereas, as a matter of fact, the articles were comprised of the most ordinary products. He felt that in consequence of this state of affairs, the pharmaceutical chemist was becoming a mere distributing agent for confidence trick men. The whole scheme was nothing but a swindle, and was simply a means of exploiting the public. It was impossible to explain to the public that when they asked for these quack nostrums they were being swindled; they simply did not understand. By utilising the pharmacist the snide manufacturers were reaping large profits. The writer stated that he had drawn the attention of the Federal Attorney-General and the Inter-State Commission to this matter. He was actuated by purely ethical motives in bringing it under notice, as he considered that a body of educated men like pharmacists should not be compelled to act as catspaws in the interests of adventurous quacks. He also thought the public should be protected against this form of exploiting, and felt sure that if the Chief Secretary became seized with the importance of the matter, immediate steps would be taken to check the further extension of the fraud. It was resolved to furnish a report to the Chief Secretary on the subject, and to state that the Board fully endorsed the facts set out in the communication under notice, which fully confirmed the recommendations made by the Board to the Government on the subject three months ago.

General Business. — The hon. treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement. Accounts were passed for payment, and after routine business had been dealt with, the Board adjourned at 1.15 p.m.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on September 1 at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne.

Present.

The President (Mr. D. A. Cossar) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Francis, Gabriel, Leete, Owen, Pickford, Rankin, and Taylor. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Kernot.

Correspondence.

To Dr. Rosenberg, forwarding copy of A.P.F. and pamphlets respecting same.

Mr. H. M. Burnside, forwarding honorarium of £10 for work done in bringing the A.P.F. under the notice of the medical profession.

Mr. A. E. Cunningham, Melbourne, pointing out that the Council had not yet [illegible] fees to be paid for Internal Cross and Extra Laboratory Work.

Mr. E. W. Mayhew, Perth, offering to supply 500 copies of "Notes on the V.P.F." at cost price (10s. per 100).

Mr. S. Ford, Melbourne, conveying thanks of the Council for donation of book to the Society's Library.

Colonel G. H. Heatherston, stating that the question of suggesting a suitable scheme for supplying returned soldiers with medicines, etc., would receive immediate attention.

Mr. E. W. Mayhew, Perth, notifying that he had been elected an Honorary Member of the Society.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, acknowledging receipt of telegram advising that the Society had adopted the proposals of the Federal Committee relative to the supply of medicines to returned soldiers.

From Dr. F. Shanassy, Nhill, acknowledging receipt of B.P. Digest, and expressing a desire to receive a copy of the V.P.F. Also suggesting the publication of the formulæ in the latter book in the *Australasian Medical Journal*.

Mr. G. V. May, Richmond, notifying his retirement from pharmacy, but intimating his desire to remain a contributing member of the Society.

Mr. H. H. Streeter, Orange, New South Wales, forwarding annual subscription, and notifying that he had enlisted and was at present in camp at Liverpool.

Trade Press Pty. Ltd., in reference to the proposal to increase postage rate on monthly newspapers. The Secretary was instructed to interview two or three members of the Federal Parliament on the subject.

Use of the Red Cross.

The Secretary reported that several members had applied for information as to whether the prohibition to the use of a red cross on a white ground for purposes of business by the Geneva Convention Act, 1911, included a red Maltese Cross on a white ground. He had written to the Defence Department on the subject, and had received a reply stating that "it will be readily understood that the Department cannot express an opinion on a question of law, and cannot authoritatively anticipate the interpretation which a court of law might place upon the wording of the Act. As, however, there is admittedly a degree of similarity between the mark prohibited by the Geneva Convention Act and the mark referred to by you, it is suggested that a mark of a more distinctive character be used in such trade." In view of this communication he had advised those pharmacists making use of the Red Maltese Cross to adopt some other mark.

Dispensing for Returned Soldiers.

Mr. Baker reported that since the last meeting of the Council a letter had been received from Captain Heath, Staff Officer for Invalids, asking that the suggested scheme for supplying returned soldiers with medicines and bandages might be submitted at the earliest possible date. As the matter was urgent, he and the Secretary at once got into touch with the members of the Committee appointed at the last meeting, with the result that a decision was arrived at to submit a scheme on the basis of 1s. dispensing fee per receipt, plus the actual cost of the drugs, containers, etc. Bandages and dressings to be supplied at an advance of 25 per cent. on invoice price or latest wholesale list. Details regarding the method of carrying out the scheme were furnished the next day personally to Captain Heath, who agreed that the proposals were fair and reasonable, and promised to submit them to the Military Medical Board for approval. Telegrams were forwarded to the other States advising them of the tentative scheme which had been submitted, and replies had been received from New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania agreeing to the proposed rates. The Queensland Society had not come to a decision, but favoured a dispensing fee of 6d. plus 25 per cent. on the cost price of the drugs used. A reprint of the result of the committee's negotiations, together with a copy of the circular issued by the Queensland Society, had been forwarded to each State Society. The Secretary said that Captain Heath had called on him the previous afternoon, and informed him that the proposed scheme had been accepted, with the proviso that the medical officers in the district would certify to the correctness of the pharmacist's accounts. It was pointed out that this would not be as satisfactory to the Department as the scheme of checking suggested, and that it might be difficult to secure the certificate of the medical officer if the prescription was dispensed by a chemist in another district. Captain Heath said that the Department would have to rely on the good faith of chemists until a more complete scheme could be adopted, as it was necessary to make immediate arrangements for the supply of medicines. The Society would be advised officially by letter in due course of the acceptance of the terms submitted.

Mr. Pickford moved that the action of the committee be endorsed. He thought they had negotiated the matter promptly and satisfactorily, and that the scheme proposed covered all the essentials which were necessary, both from the Department's and the pharmacists' point of view. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which was carried.

After further discussion, the Secretary was instructed to take action in the following matters on receipt of the official written acceptance of the committee's offer by the Department:—

(1) To submit a similar scheme to the Red Cross Society in regard to the supply of medicines, invalid foods, etc., not covered by the contract with the Defence Department.

(2) To keep in touch with the other State Societies and advise them of what was being done so as to secure uniformity of action as far as possible.

(3) To issue a circular letter to pharmacists setting out the terms of the scheme and urging their co-operation in carrying it out in its entirety.

(4) To interview the Secretary of the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association and ascertain to what extent joint action might be taken.

(5) To convene a meeting of the Federal Committee to deal with matters arising out of the proposals, particularly in regard to the checking of accounts.

War Loan.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Owen) said that two Deposit Receipts on account of the Benevolent Fund had matured during the month, and had been renewed. The Articles of Association only allowed the Treasurer to place money on deposit for twelve months, and this precluded him from taking up stock or bonds in the Commonwealth War Loan. He suggested that before the next loan was opened the Articles might be amended in order that portion of the Benevolent Fund might be invested in it. Mr. Rankin cordially endorsed the proposal. It was resolved to take the necessary steps in reference to the matter at the next Annual Meeting, or at an earlier date if occasion arose.

German Trade Marks.

On the motion of Mr. Leete, seconded by Mr. Rankin, it was resolved to address a communication to the Federal Attorney-General, strongly recommending the prohibition of the use of German trade-names. The Secretary reported that several chemists had complained that a certain firm was selling "Aspirin Tablets, 5 grains," at 6d. per bottle of 25. He had had a purchase made, and had had the tablets analysed, with the result that they were found to contain only 3.25 grs. of acetyl-salicylic acid instead of 5 grains. The attention of the Health Department had been drawn to the matter with a view to a prosecution being instituted. It was resolved to bring this matter also under the notice of the Attorney-General.

Honour Roll.

It was decided to compile a record of students of the College and any others who had been duly registered as apprentices who had gone to the front with a view of erecting a permanent Honour Board in the building. The Secretary was instructed to invite all past and present students of the College to notify him on their enlistment. It was resolved that the name of the Society's Clerk (Mr. F. C. Kent), who would shortly leave for the Dardanelles, be also included in the Honour List.

Mr. Shillinglaw's Allowance.

Mr. Bailey moved, Mr. Owen seconded, that the retiring allowance to Mr. Shillinglaw be continued for a further term of six months. Carried.

Medical Students' Class.

It was reported that the lectures in Pharmacy and Materia Medica to third-year medical students commenced on August 30. Nearly seventy students had enrolled.

Donation to Library.

The following donation to the Society's Library was received from Dr. Edward Robertson, chairman of the Board of Public Health—Dispensatorium Pharmaceuticum Ratisbonense. The President said that this book was published in 1727, and was, therefore, nearly 200 years old. It was wonderfully well preserved, and was a valuable addition to the Library, particularly on the historical side. It was resolved that Dr. Robertson be written to and thanked for his donation.

General Business.

The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

Central Committee.

The twenty-fifth meeting was held at the College of Pharmacy on Thursday, September 16.

Present—Messrs. Bartleman (in the chair), Jones, Barnard, Cowper, Loughman, George, Hughes, Mowat, Sayle, Wasley, and the General Secretary.

Correspondence was read and received. Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Barnard seconded, that Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co., and Duerdin and Sainsbury be thanked for their reply to request made. Secretary to write to Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co., informing them of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. and Duerdin and Sainsbury's action in the matter.

Mr. May's letter of resignation received. Resolved that it be accepted with regret, and that the committee wished him every success in his new venture.

Saturday Closing.—The Chairman read a letter which had appeared in the "Argus" the previous day. He said as there were a number of dissentients on the question, he had requested the Secretary to write to the different Sections, to again consider the matter, so that delegates could report at this meeting and finality be reached.

Mr. Jones, North Melbourne, said that all but two in his Section were in favour of the petition.

Mr. Barnard, Eastern Suburbs, said that all but two in his Section were in favour of the petition.

Mr. Sayle, City Section, said that his members strongly opposed the petition, and they thought that the time was inopportune for curtailing the hours of business.

Mr. George, South Suburban Section, said that Mr. Lee, their Secretary, had received a letter from Mr. Keays, of North Melbourne, who strongly objected to the petition. His members thought that there was something in Mr. Keay's letter. They were practically in favour of closing on Saturday afternoons, but they would prefer to see the matter postponed.

He thought that about four out of their thirty members were absolutely opposed to the petition, while out of the remainder, about six were very strongly in favour of it.

Mr. Hughes, Brunswick Section, said that a majority of his members was in favour of the petition.

[illegible] Secretary [illegible] and that one [illegible] refused to oppose it but the rest were will[illegible] to [illegible] with the matter.

After [illegible] discussion had, the Secretary received that there were two amendments.

Mr [illegible] moved Mr Hughes seconded, that the [illegible] should be sent to the Minister.

Mr Wa[illegible] moved as an amendment, That the matter of the petition be deferred.

Mr Sayle seconded and said that they were under definite instructions to oppose the petition.

The Chairman put the amendment as the motion and it was lost on a for and against vote.

He then put the original motion, which was carried by four and 3 against.

Meeting and Dinner Arrangements. The Chairman said that the committee had gone to a lot of trouble, and that they deserved the thanks of the meeting for their interest in the matter and for their visits to the chemists with their price list for Herald.

Labels. The Secretary said that owing to a delay in receiving the labels, he had not yet supplied all the Section, but that the balance would go out in a day or so.

Mr Jones reported that his Section had they did not require the labels. The Secretary was requested to write to Mr. Jones, the Secretary, explaining that there had been some misunderstanding between the executive and his Section about the labels, and the executive hoped that on second thoughts they would find the labels of some use, and that they were printed in the interests and for the benefit of the chemist.

Eastern Suburbs. Eastern Suburbs Mr Barnard said that the principal business was a consideration of the revision of dispensing prices. His Section considered that it should in future be charged for 8 oz. tablespoon dose mixtures, and 4/- for 6 oz. tablespoonful dose mixtures.

It was moved that delegate bring this matter before their Section.

City Section. Mr Sayle reported that his Section had decided on printing a new supply of "Spirol" labels by leaving out the words "Acid-Victossal are [illegible] and to put instead, "Relieves headache and rheumatic pains."

Mr Gerrard moved that "25" be left out of the [illegible] Tablets, seconded by Mr Mowat, and carried.

Mr Sayle and Mr Wa[illegible] undertook for the City Section to recommend the Secretary of the City Section to do the also.

Northern Suburbs. Mr Leighman reported that his Section at its last meeting had as guest the President of the Pharmaceutical Society and Mr Turner. Mr Turner had given a most interesting address, full of explanation of the metric system as adopted by the new B.P.

Mr Sayle thought it was very desirable that there should be continued among the Sections. The North Suburban Section had arranged with Mr Turner to give a similar lecture.

South Suburban. Mr George reported that South Suburban [illegible] position of British members had [illegible] being labelled with the Proprietary and [illegible] the Australian market. The [illegible] price for the Australian [illegible] a source of annoyance to [illegible].

Re Military Dispensing. To charge a prescription at cost, plus 1s. as a dispensing fee, had received the support of his section, and members also considered that this would be an excellent basis for the national insurance scheme.

Brunswick Section. Mr. Hughes said that he had nothing special to report.

Port Melbourne. Mr. Mowat said his members had considered the recommendations made at the previous meeting, and that his members were in favour of charging the higher dispensing fees.

Delegates were requested to bring before their section the following recommendation:—That on account of the greater strength of the new B.P. Tinctures of Camph. Co. and Opium, the formula for the well known "4 three penneth's" Cough Mixture be as follows:—

Ess. Peppermint	2.5
Ipss. Vinst.	2.5
Fr. Camph. Co.	2.5
Fr. Opii	0.5

It was decided that the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association be held on Tuesday, October 10th, at 8.30 p.m., at the College of Pharmacy.

The Hon. Secretary states that on going through the petitions after the executive meeting, he found that the City of Prahran had not been included among them, as it had not been returned to him. As this petition contained some eight or ten signatures, the total in favour of Saturday afternoon closing would be about 150.

A. L. J. Peters,
Hon. Gen. Secretary.

City Section.

The monthly meeting of the City Section was held at Champion's Queen's Arms Hotel, Swanston street, on Wednesday, September 15th, at 8.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. White (in the chair), Lock, Gulliver, Poulton, Longmore, sen., Pleasance, Champion, Wasley, Sayle, Owen, and the secretary. Apology from Mr. Francis.

Saturday Afternoon Closing. — This matter came up for further discussion. The secretary said that the Central Committee desired to reach finality over the matter at the next meeting.

Mr Gulliver moved that our delegates be asked to oppose the petition. He considered that it was advisable to drop it for the time being, for two reasons: that he considered the time for curtailing the hours of business at the present time inopportune, and secondly that a petition which had been deferred every month for 5 months showed that the chemists were by no means unanimous on the question. Mr. Lock seconded.

The motion was put by the chairman, and carried unanimously.

It was agreed that the new price, 1s. 6d., for "Spirol" Tablets be adopted by this section.

The Secretary said that "Spirol" Labels were getting short again, and asked for the sanction of the section to have another 10,000 printed. This was agreed to.

Mr. Gulliver moved that on the next lot of "Spirol" Labels the words "Aceto-salicylic Acid" be left out. He recommended that they be called plain "Spirol." Mr. Gulliver further moved that under the word "Spirol" be added "Relieves Headache and Rheumatic Pain."

The motion was put and carried.

After a general discussion on matters of pharmaceutical interest, the meeting ended.

North Melbourne and Essendon District Chemists' Association.

The monthly meeting of the Association was held at the pharmacy of Mr. F. Lawson, North Melbourne, on the evening of Tuesday, 14th September, 1915.

Present: Messrs. Goode (in chair), Jewkes, Markham, Gardiner, Vale, Torrance, Lawson, Prout, and Hon. Sec.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, on motion of Messrs. Jewkes and Gardiner.

Correspondence.—Inward—Letter from Hon. Gen. Sec. of Metropolitan Association re labels for New B.P., and Saturday afternoon closing, was received. It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Richards, seconded by Mr. Vale, that these labels were not required by this section, and the account therefore be returned to Metropolitan Section.

Saturday Afternoon Closing.—After considerable discussion, it was decided that the delegates be instructed to inform the Central Committee that this section was in favour of the movement for closing, with the exception of two of its members.

Military Dispensing.—Mr. Jewkes informed the meeting that the Pharmaceutical Society had agreed on behalf of the retail chemists to do military dispensing on the basis of cost price and 1s. surcharge for dispensing, and 25 per cent. over cost on all dressings and bandages, etc., supplied. Mr. Jewkes moved, and Mr. Vale seconded, that this Association fall into line with the Pharmaceutical Society's agreement. Carried.

Sigma.—The president then gave a lecturette on the Sigma Co. Ltd., pointing out the benefits derived from supporting the company, and after it had been decided that the next meeting should be held at Mr. Goode's, the meeting terminated.

V. L. Jones, Hon. Sec.

Consolidated Acts.

By Proclamation dated September 6, and published in the Gazette of September 15, His Excellency the Governor of Victoria declared his assent to the consolidating Bills passed by Parliament during the present Session. Included in the list are the Acts to Consolidate and Amend the Law relating to Medical Practitioners, Dentists and Chemists, and to adopt and continue the British Pharmacopoeia, and to consolidate the Law relating to the Sale and Use of Poisons and Poisonous Substances and Preparations. These Acts are now therefore in force, and are known as the Medical Act 1915 and the Poisons Act 1915.

Lodge Dispensing.

Conference at Eaglehawk.

At the invitation of the Eaglehawk chemists, representatives of the various friendly societies in the Eaglehawk district met them in conference in the Oddfellows' Hall, Eaglehawk, on September 15, to discuss the proposal by the chemists to increase the price of medicines to lodge patients. Mr. W. J. Martin presided, and representatives were present from the local branch of the A.N.A., Loyal Catherine Lodge, M.U., G.U.O.O.F., Refuge Tent, I.O.R., St. Liborius's branch of the H.A.C.B.S., Loyal Darling Lodge, M.U., and Cobden Tent, I.O.R.

In explaining the object of the conference, Mr. W. K. Burnside said that, owing to the increase in the price of drugs and chemicals, they had found it necessary to raise the price of medicines, but before doing so they considered it better to convene a conference of the friendly societies in order to explain the reasons for the increases. Many people had vague ideas concerning the cost of preparing medicines and the profits to be made in the chemist's business, but he could place before them figures by which they could see clearly that at the present cost of drugs it was impossible to profitably dispense medicines for lodge patients at the present amount paid by members, namely, 6/- per annum. In 1904 an agreement had been entered into between the lodges and chemists. Since that time there had been an all round increase in wages, which consequently meant an all round increase in the price of commodities. Butchers, bakers, and grocers paid increased prices for their goods, but passed it on to the consumers. Chemists had also to bear the burdens, the same as the rest of the community, but although the average price of drugs had increased by 20 per cent. during the period from 1904 to 1914, lodge members were not charged one penny extra. Since the beginning of the war, however, prices had increased considerably, and it had now been found necessary to make an extra charge as above mentioned.

Mr. Burnside at this stage read a list of drugs and chemicals of every day use, in which it was shown that the average increase in the cost price of the articles was 105 per cent. since the outbreak of the war. For instance, on the 1st July, 1914, ac. salicyl was quoted at 2/6, the present price being 24/-, or an increase of 850 per cent. Bromides had increased 300 per cent., phenacetin and phenazone 480 per cent., mercurial preparations 150 per cent., alkaloids, such as atropine, 850 per cent., cocaine 238 per cent., and morphia 82 per cent. Sod. salic. had been increased by 860 per cent., magnes sulp. (Epsom salts) 245 per cent., and antiseptics, such as potash perm., 470 per cent. The cost price of ac. acet. salic. had been raised from 4/- to 42/-. There had been a general increase in drugs and chemicals, and the excise duty placed on spirits increased the price of tinctures. He was prepared to hand the list to the chairman in order that it might be verified by any other chemist if so desired. Unfortunately the world had depended to a very

large extent upon Germany for most of the chemicals used, and since the war many of them were unobtainable. Other countries were now beginning to manufacture them, but he did not think there was any likelihood of the prices being reduced to the same amount as had been charged prior to the war. They had considered the whole matter carefully, and had arrived at the decision that 8/6 per member per annum was a fair and reasonable charge. At all events, it was the lowest that the chemists could accept. There were several grievances which they would also like to place before the friendly societies, and urge that they be remedied. They desired that a uniform age for children of members should be fixed as follows:—Girls, 18 years; boys, 16 years; lists of members to be furnished one week after the beginning of the quarter, all members to be placed on one or other list, financial members only to be paid for, and that medicines be supplied on the prescriptions of the lodge medical men only. It was also urged that the delegates should inform the members of the Lodges that they must provide their own bottles when obtaining medicine.

Mr. A. W. McGibbony supported the remarks of Mr. Burnside, and taking an average of ten prescriptions per member per annum as a fair basis upon which to support his argument, he showed that the actual cost of drugs and chemicals passed over the counter would amount to £254 3/4, and working expenses, etc., in addition, would bring the amount to £312. There were 1000 members on the lists, and at the present rate of payment their income from lodge patients would total £300, thus showing that the chemists actually lost £12 per annum. He considered that a few months hence the price of drugs would be further increased, which would mean a further loss to the chemists. By raising the charges to lodge patients to 8/6, it would mean a revenue of £425, or a profit of £56/10/- to each of the chemists for work performed. If the same rate were charged, as allowed by the Defence Department in dispensing for wounded soldiers, namely 1/- over the actual cost of the drugs, it would mean a revenue to the local chemists of £700.

In answer to Mr. J. Trevean, Mr. McGibbony said he had based his average upon the number of prescriptions prepared during the year, to wit—

Mr. Trevean considered that at the period were taken for, say, six months, the average number of prescriptions per member would probably be lower than 10.

Mr. G. Eyre: Suppose the prices of drugs and materials rose, would the chemists reduce the charge made on lodge patients?

Mr. McGibbony: We will meet the friendly societies when the time arrives.

Mr. Burnside: We have endeavored to place the matter before the societies in a reasonable manner, and we hope the delegates will place the matter before their respective societies.

Queensland.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland

A special meeting of the Council was held on August 19.

Present.—Messrs. J. W. Case (president), T. J. Rutter, G. J. Mackay, G. Watkins, V. S. Everett, R. C. Park, V. B. Chater, and R. Lenehan.

Subject of Discussion.—To deliberate on a letter from Dr. Fetherston, Director-General of Medical Services, on the supply of drugs and dressings to returned soldiers.

The president detailed what had been done at the special meeting held on August 5th, and read some correspondence from Mr. Piper, Editor C.D.A.

The secretary read a lettergram from Mr. C. L. Butchers, secretary, Federal Pharmaceutical Committee, on the subject, in reply to a telegram sent under instructions from the president, asking what was being done in the south. Mr. Butchers suggested a dispensing fee of one shilling per recipe, plus cost of drugs, containers, etc., based on latest wholesale list or invoice, dressings at 25 per cent. on cost.

After discussion, a circular letter was directed to be send to members placing before them the following schemes for comment, and asking them to approve of one:—

1st.—One shilling dispensing fee per recipe. Drugs to be dispensed at cost price, plus cost of containers, carriage, etc., based on latest wholesale list or invoice. Dressings at 25 per cent. on cost.

2nd.—Drugs to be dispensed at a 25 per cent. profit, including containers, carriage, etc., plus a dispensing fee of sixpence per prescription. (This suggestion received the approval of the Council.)

3rd.—Drugs to be supplied on a per capita basis, as is usual in lodge dispensing. This scheme did not receive general approval.

4th.—Members were to be asked for their personal views.

It was arranged to call a meeting on Wednesday, 8th September, to discuss replies and to formulate a scheme. Meanwhile the secretaries of other Lodges were to be communicated with.

A Council meeting of the Society was held on September 8, to discuss the proposal for dispensing for returned sick and wounded soldiers.

Present: Mr. J. W. Case, president; Messrs. [illegible] G. Watkins, T. J. Rutter, G. J. Mackay, [illegible], and J. Lamb.

The minutes of the previous meeting convened for this purpose were read and signed.

Correspondence.—*Winterbotham.*—The president reported having met the secretary and had had talk with Mr. Winterbotham, who had

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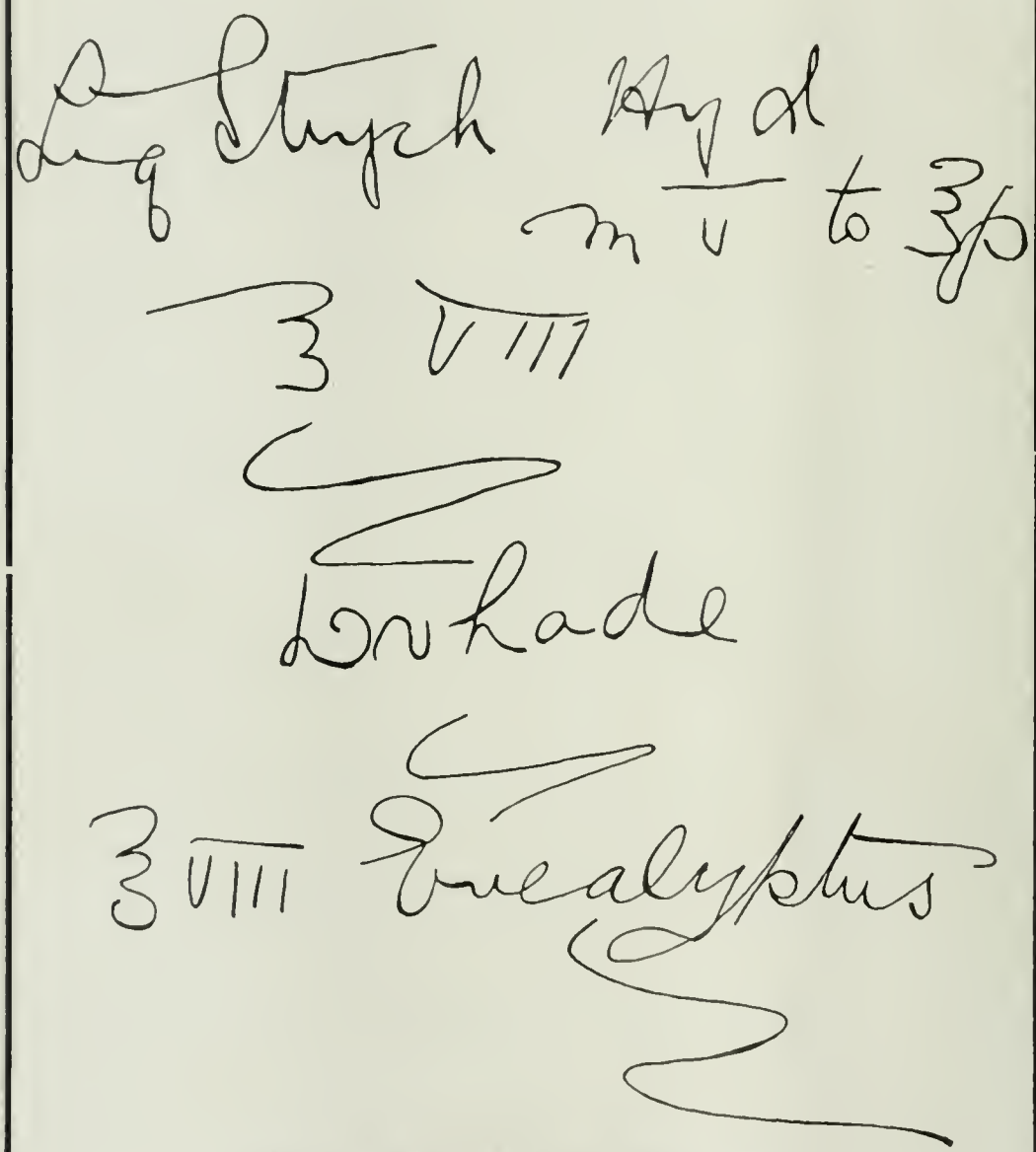

EXHIBIT WAUBRA POISONING CASE.

Vide Report of Coroner's Inquest in this issue.

charge of arrangements in Queensland. He said that they had detailed what the Council had done, and had left with him one of the circulars issued by the Council.

Mr. Watkins passed over a letter from Mr. A. R. Bailey, president of the Victorian Society, saying what they proposed doing in that State, and advocated unanimous action on the part of all Councils.

The replies from the Council's circular, numbering 45 (which, with the councillors' votes, amounted to 57) were subjected to scrutiny. With few exceptions, the Council's suggestions were approved of. Several replies included valuable suggestions. The replies came from all over the State, and it was stated that the response had been most gratifying.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

That medicines be supplied to returned sick and wounded soldiers on the following conditions:—

1. At a price of 25 per cent. on cost of ingredients and containers landed in the chemist's store, together with a dispensing fee of 6d. per recipe.
2. In arriving at the charge for any ingredient of a prescription, or for a container, every fraction of a penny shall be reckoned as one penny.

(The other conditions to be the same as those adopted by the Victorian Society.)

Dr. Fetherston was to be advised that the above arrangements would not be so cumbersome as it appeared to be at first sight, and the Council would afford the department every assistance.

P.D.L. (Queensland Branch).

A meeting of directors was held at the office of Mr. S. Cowell (McGuffie and Co.) on August 17th. All the directors were present.

The matters discussed were purely routine, such as appointment of Messrs. Althow and MacGregor as solicitors, arrangement with bankers, and the limitation of indemnity policy with the Brisbane Fire Office.

Mr. J. W. Case was appointed representative on the directorate of the Brisbane Fire Office.

Several matters which formed the subject of conference between the directors and the general secretary of P.D.L., Mr. C. L. Butchers, were reported on.

It was decided to conclude the financial year on September 30th, to bring it into line with other branches of P.D.L.

It was stated that the membership up to date was very satisfactory.

This concluded the business.

Trade in Queensland.

Reports from the north state that the drought is the most severe on record. Cattle are in a deplorable condition, and feed is unprocurable. Notwithstanding this, our correspondent says there is plenty of money about, and that people are more liberal in their buying. Perhaps this is what might be expected after ten fat years, but it is clear that it cannot go on unless the drought breaks. Reports from Central Queensland are still doleful. Their experience has been specially bad. Trade, however, is maintaining a fairly high level. South Queensland has experienced some relief, and the crops are reported as fair.

There is very little tightness of money, but the antics of the new Government is causing some concern in financial quarters. Wholesalers are still keeping up their returns, and it has been said that the year of war just completed has not been the worst year they have experienced. Mild epidemics of influenza and colds have kept retailers going. Some difficulty is being experienced again in obtaining suitable junior assistants, which is a good indication of the trend of affairs. Altogether there are no serious complaints regarding trade depression heard.

Death of Mr C. W. Costin.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. C. W. Costin, Clerk of Parliament, and of the Legislative Council, Queensland, which took place from pneumonia following on influenza on September 13th. Mr. Costin was a son of Mr. W. J. Costin, one of the oldest chemists on the Queensland register. Two of his brothers, Mr. F. J. F. Costin, of Paddington, Brisbane, and Mr. J. A. Costin, of Mareeba, are also chemists. Mr. Costin had the misfortune to lose a son in Gallipoli, Lieutenant Costin, soon after the Australians landed there, and although he bore up with fortitude under his loss, it was a contributing factor to his death. We take the opportunity of offering his father and the members of his family our sincerest sympathy.

Changes in Assistants.

There is a shortage again in junior assistants, and changes are few in consequence. Mr. Wall, of Sydney, has gone to Mr. N. Green, of Toowoomba; Mr. Angell has gone to Mr. F. C. Allen, of Ipswich; Mr. J. Beresford has left Mr. F. C. Allen, and is going to Mr. W. Collins, of Cairns, to manage a branch establishment; Mr. Hillard, of Victoria, has taken the place of Mr. J. Bourke with Mr. St. Vincent Jubb, of Toowoomba.

Military Pharmacists.

Mr. A. J. Wright, of Mackay, Mr. J. Bourke, of Mackay, and Mr. Roger, of Dalby, are all in training in the A.M.C. at Enoggera Camp. Mr. J. Chapman, is leaving Messrs. Green and Co. Ltd., Townsville, to join the A.M.C. shortly.

Qualified pharmacists have expressed much disgust at the treatment they receive at the training camps. They were under the impression that their pharmaceutical training would be of service to their country, but they find their pharmaceutical knowledge is so little appreciated by the military authorities that unqualified trainees are given precedence to them in rank. One man felt so keenly aggrieved that it is his intention to transfer to the combatant forces. It appears also that the way in which the hospital dispensary for returned wounded and sick soldiers is run is little short of a scandal. It is placed in charge of a compulsory trainee without qualification. Though it appears the doctors are regu-

sent to the laxity on the part of the military authorities, they are not in a position to do anything towards improving matters. From the point of view of the Pharmaceutical Society, no action can be taken, owing to the difficulty in getting those who are qualified and in the ranks to come forward and state a case lest a black mark be placed against them. The whole position of pharmacists serving in the Army is most unsatisfactory. They would certainly get greater facilities for advancement in the combatant forces.

General.

Chemists on Holiday.—Mr D. J. Clarke, who has been unwell for some time, is trying a change in North Queensland. Mr. F. J. Drew, of Charleville, is visiting Brisbane.

New Pharmacy.—Mr Jas. McDonald has opened a chemist's shop at Taringa, a suburb of Brisbane.

Brisbane United Friendly Societies' Dispensary.—The foundation stone of the new dispensary in George-street, Brisbane, was laid with great eclat during the month. Many Parliamentarians graced the proceedings with their presence.

South Australia.

(From Our Adelaide Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of South Australia.

The usual Board meeting was held on August 13th at the society's room.

The Acting Registrar, Mr. T. M. Young, was instructed to make the necessary arrangements for the September examinations.

Mr. I. J. Heron's request to be allowed to take his Practical Chemistry examination in Sydney was granted.

Mr. C. V. Luber was registered.

Mr. W. H. Porter gave notice of motion to alter regulation to comply with the requirements of the Tasmanian Board.

The Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.

At the usual monthly meeting held on August 9th, the question of the non-acceptance of the Society's scheme for dispensing to members of the military permanent staff was discussed. The Acting Secretary reported that he had forwarded the following letter embodying the Council's view of the matter, the draft had been submitted to the President and met with his approval:—

"This Society went to considerable trouble and expense to offer facilities to your department in this matter, which your first note led the Society to believe would be utilised, and although the contract from a monetary point of view is not large comparatively, it was decided to accept your first conditions, believing that the facilities offered would obtain for this Society an amount of the work proportionate to the convenience available to you by each tenderer or receipt.

"Without forwarding the list of names promised, the conditions mentioned in your last communication is considered to be unfair, in that your Minister would make a convenience of our organisation in utilising the country pharmacies where the other tenderer has no branches.

"It has been considered that this explanation is necessary to make it plain to your department why this Society is not prepared to supply medicines, etc., under the amended conditions."

The action of the President and Secretary was endorsed. The President said that he had spoken to a Senator on the matter, and had authorised the Acting Secretary to furnish him with a set of the correspondence which had passed between the Society and the Defence Department.

Retail Defence Association.

A visit to the Metropolitan Abattoirs took place on August 23rd under the auspices of the above Association, and a fair number of chemists took advantage of the outing. They were shown over the works by the manager, and spent a very pleasant and instructive afternoon. The Association has arranged for the manufacture of Bismuthated Magnesia Tablets. These are to be put up in 50's in a one-ounce wide-mouth bottle as used for the powder, and to be retailed at 1/6. Attention is drawn to the fact that it is very necessary that all packages should be alike, and the committee would be pleased if members would remember this. "Sonia Feetol" is now on the market. It retails at 1/- 4 oz. bottle, and shows an excellent profit. The Association has also issued circulars to all the medical men, again pointing out the shortage of certain drugs and their excessive price, and requesting medical men to be as sparing as possible in ordering the drugs referred to.

Retail Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A visit to the Observatory on West Terrace took place during the month. The members were shown over the institution by Mr. Bromley, the Government Astronomer. History does not relate whether they discovered any new stars or whether they were quite satisfied with those already "known, admitted and approved," but those who participated in the inspection greatly appreciated the kindness shown to them by the Observatory staff.

Personal.

Mr. R. O. Fox has been elected President of the Sturt Bowling Club. The Sturt Club knows good men when they get them, and have again exemplified this by electing Mr. Fox as their President. This makes the second chemist who has occupied the position. Mr. Hustler, who is a member of the Board and the Council, is a former President of the club. Chemists in S.A. take a keen interest in bowling, and there is scarcely a bowling club in South Australia which cannot boast of at least two or three chemists among its members.

Value of the Chemist.

The Hon. R. P. Blundell, Minister of Mines and Industry, made a public statement a few days ago regarding the extension of local industry. Mr. Blundell said:

"A few days ago I sent a communication to the Chamber of Manufactures asking them to appoint three representatives to meet myself, Mr. Hargreaves (the Government Analyst), and Mr. Ward (Government Geologist). The object of this meeting will be to discuss first of all the question of utilising our mineral resources in connection with manufacture. We have to look only to Germany to realise what an advance they have made in that matter, and the way in which they have been able to capture the various markets and practically control the markets of the essential things in the production of goods. Their success has been almost entirely due to the fact that they realised the absolute value of the chemist. We purpose putting before the manufacturers the necessity of utilising the chemist in connection with the extension of local industry. Hitherto nothing in this direction has been done. If as the result of this gathering a department is formed that will be prepared to give its whole time and thought to the investigation and testing of the value of different materials with a view to assisting in the establishment of new industries or extending the usefulness of those already in existence, good work has been accomplished.

"Take yacka gum, for instance. This article was for some time prior to the war exported to other countries, and we have every reason to believe that a great deal of it has found its way to Germany, where they have been able to use it for the production of a high explosive (which has been used most effectively against our own forces). Apart from that, it is known also that yacka gum possesses an ingredient from which varnish and other essentials can be produced. There is also marine fibre. We find in connection with the unlimited deposits of fibre in this State that it possesses qualities which make it extremely valuable, and the value of the chemist in dealing with raw material of this description may prove of great advantage to the State."

Interview with Mr. L. R. Scammell.

Mr. L. R. Scammell, managing director of Messrs. F. H. Faulding and Co., wholesale druggists, Adelaide, referred, in the course of an interview during the month, to the increasing trade with Japan. He thought that this competition was going to seriously affect Australia. He pleaded for closer attention to technical education and less devotion to sport. Germans were more enterprising than our own people. Many Englishmen were content to be merely agents. For years we imported goods from England, but we discovered that the chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations were made in Germany, and were simply dispatched by houses in Great Britain at an advanced rate. The English wholesale druggist wanted to close up on Friday afternoons, in order to play golf or take a boat up the Thames. He has been a doler out of somebody else's goods. Once the Germans got their things known, the intermediary was dispensed with, and German commercial travellers came on the scene. The Germans insisted on technical education. Individuals benefited by a system of compulsory and secondary education. Specialisation was encouraged, and an expert received greater recognition than in any other country, and was given facilities by the Government and private manufacturers to conduct experiments. This policy of helping the individual had resulted in the discovery of many of the remedies now in household use. Aspirin and phenacetin tablets were made from drugs produced in Germany. In Australia a man having passed the necessary examinations to become a pharmaceutical chemist must earn his livelihood by constant attention to small matters, and there was no time for him to study. Until the technical chemist received greater encouragement they would never get the best results from his training.

Cut-Prices for Proprietaries.

Mr. E. Parry, pharmacist of Fremantle, has written the following letter to a local chemist, which is worth publishing in your columns. Mr. Parry says:—

"I carefully noted the prices of Patent Medicines, etc., as quoted in Messrs. John Martin and Co.'s list, a copy of which was published in the June issue of the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*, and sincerely sympathise with you poor Adelaide chemists in the matter of competition, but at the same time I think we *poorer* West Australian pharmacists are in need of even deeper sympathy from our South Australian brethren, as you will be able to discover if you will peruse the enclosed price lists of our Perth and Fremantle competitors, and compare the prices with John Martin and Co.'s prices.

"What I wonder at is that the public give us any of their custom at all for the lines advertised by the drapers. What can be done? It is certainly wicked to take the bread out of the mouths of tradespeople whose very living depends on the sale of goods in their own special lines of business, and legislation ought to be able to put the matter right. Drapers ought to be limited to trade in drapery only, and grocers in grocery. Pharmacists and chemists and druggists should be confined to their own trade and profession—at any rate in towns of, say, 2000 or over in population."

The following are the prices referred to. They are taken from the price list of two big drapery firms who advertise largely in the daily papers:—Indian Root Pills, 11½d.; Doan's, 2/3½; Cascara Pills, 3½d.; Irish Moss, 10½d.; Scott's Emulsion, 1/10½; Clement's Tonic, 2/3; Chessbrough's Vaseline, 2½d.; Tooth Brushes, 3½d.; J. and J. Utility Kits, 10½d.; Ammoniated Quinine, 5d.; Pink Pills, 2/3; Cuticura Ointment, 2/3; Zambuk, 1/3½; Bate's Salve, 5d.; and Greathead's, 1/3½.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The regular meeting of the board was held at the registered office at 10 a.m., on the 10th inst.

Present: Messrs. M. Rushton (president), H. T. Gould, H. Sidwell, and T. James. Apologies were received from Messrs. C. Eberhard, and W. R. Drake.

Preliminary Examination.—Examiners' report on the June examinations was presented showing that J. R. Varian had passed in all subjects except arithmetic, which he could take as a single subject. Registrar reported having received application from him to sit for this subject in September, and after consideration the board approved of his being allowed to do so.

Reciprocity.—The South Australian Registrar wrote enclosing copy of notice in the South Australian "Gazette," which, however, restricted the agreement to examinees of this board. Registrar read the reply he had sent, in which he pointed out that as examinations had been held in this State since the early forties, a very large number of examinees from this State would be excluded from the reciprocal agreement, as gazetted in South Australia. A copy of the "Gazette" notice from the New Zealand "Gazette" as finally adopted was enclosed. Action approved.

Convalescent Soldiers.—The Director-General of Medical Services wrote asking for suggestions for a scheme for supply of medicines and dressings. Voluminous correspondence in the matter was read from the Federal Pharmaceutical Committee, and the editor of the "Chemist and Druggist." After discussion, it was resolved to follow the lines proposed by the Federal Committee as follows:—"Dispensing fee, one shilling per recipe plus cost of drugs, containers, etc., based on the latest wholesale lists; dressings, twenty-five per cent. on wholesale price."

B.M.A.—Registrar reported that in receipt of the first communication from the Federal Committee re the foregoing, the president had instructed him to forward a copy of the accompanying circular issued by Mr. Buckhurst, to the local branch of the B.M.A., and read reply approving of the course suggested by Mr. Buckhurst, viz., that medical attendance and the supply of medicines, etc., should be kept separate and distinct.

Pharmacy Bill.—The president reported that a special meeting had been held on the 2nd August to formulate suggestions asked for by the Hon. the Chief Secretary, and these had been sent on.

B.P., 1914.—The question as to when this should become official was discussed, and the 1st January, 1916, suggested, and the Registrar was instructed to send this suggestion on to the local branch of the B.M.A. for its consideration.

Fine.—Registrar reported having written to the Council Clerk at Fingal, for the amount of £5 fine in the case of Septimus Smith, and same had been received.

Changes of Address.—Mr. J. Coombe, Cygnet; H. Hogg, Launceston; and F. M. Williams, Ulverstone.

Examinations.—Mr. H. D. Paul, a Tasmanian, wrote from Adelaide, enquiring particulars of the syllabus of the final examination, which had been sent on.

Mr. E. Horbury, a minor man, wrote from Cape Town re openings and registration in Tasmania. The desired information had been forwarded.

Digest of B.P.—Resolved that seventy copies be procured from Melbourne for free distribution.

War Loan.—On the motion of Mr. Sidwell, seconded by Mr. Gould, it was resolved to withdraw the £50, plus interest, lying in the Hobart Savings Bank, and invest £100 of the funds of the board in the 4½ per cent. war loan.

Finance.—Cash balance reported £103 2s. 11d., after paying accounts passed to the value of £64 10s. 5d.

Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.

A meeting of the Council was held at the office at 7.45 on 10th August, 1915.

Present: Messrs. Burton, Sidwell, and James. Messrs. Brownell and Eberhard sent apologies.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed as correct.

The Chairman explained that, owing to the continued illness of the secretary and himself, this was the first meeting since the annual meeting, and it would be necessary to formally elect a chairman for the current year.

Chairman.—Mr. Burton was then re-elected chairman.

Convalescent Soldiers.—Voluminous correspondence was read from the Director-General of Medical Services, the chairman of the Federal Pharmaceutical Committee, and the editor of the "Chemist and Druggist," on the supply of medicines and dressings. The chairman explained that, owing to the circumstances detailed above, the board had kindly taken over the matter, and sent on suggestions as requested by the military authorities. These were read, and formally approved by the meeting.

Finance.—Cash balance reported £5 10s. 8d., after paying accounts passed, to the value of £27 6s. 8d., with £7 7s. subscriptions still due.

Western Australia.

Chemists and Treatment of Syphilis.

In the Legislative Assembly on August 24th, a Bill to amend the Health Act 1911-12 was introduced by the Hon. R. H. Underwood and read a first time. A new part of the Health Act is created, namely, "Venereal Diseases and Disorders affecting the Generative Organs."

Venereal Disease is defined as including gonorrhœa, syphilis (including congenital syphilis), soft chancre, venereal warts and granuloma.

Clause 242a (1) states: No person other than a medical practitioner, or a person acting under direct instructions of such a practitioner, shall attend upon or prescribe for any person suffering from any venereal disease for the purpose of curing, alleviating, or treating such disease. Penalty: Fifty pounds, or six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

(2) The preceding sub-section shall not apply to a registered pharmaceutical chemist *in the ordinary conduct of his business*, or who dispenses to the patient of a medical practitioner or to *a registered pharmaceutical chemist who sells to* any person who is *outside a radius of ten miles from a pharmaceutical chemist* under a permit in writing from the Commissioner (of Health), which permit the Commissioner is hereby empowered to grant, sells to any person any patent or proprietary medicine for the cure or alleviation of any venereal disease, from which such person is suffering: Provided always that such medicine is one that has been approved by the Commissioners as fit to be sold for the cure or alleviation of such disease.

The definition of patent or proprietary medicine set out in section 187 of the Health Act is adopted. It means and includes any medicine or medicinal preparation for external or internal use, either patented, or recommended to the public by advertisement, etc., for the prevention, cure or relief of any malady or disorder incident to or otherwise affecting the human body.

Words italicised in sub-clause 2 are proposed to be added by the Minister in charge of the Bill on the recommendation of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society.

A general prohibition of sexual advertisements, as well as a number of clauses dealing with the treatment and notification of the disease, are included in the Amending Bill. These are not of particular interest to pharmacists.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the board was held on August 27. The chair was occupied by the president (Mr. A. L. Elvins, J.P.).

Dental Motor Ambulance Fund. — The Hon. Treasurer (Dr. R. J. B. Yule) reported that he had received subscriptions to the fund to the amount of £205 17s., while the outstanding subscriptions which had been promised amounted to £12 12s. He was very grateful to the subscribers to the fund, which, from a patriotic standpoint, was for one of the noblest objects connected with the war.

Dr. Yule also read the following letter, which he was pleased to have received from Mr. J. T. Tunnock:—

"Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in tendering as a gift to your fund a motor chassis, fitted with a 4-cylinder, 25 horse-power engine, manufactured by Brown Bros., London. The complete car's original cost was £750. The present value of chassis is about £350. The engine has been recently overhauled, and at the cost of £100 the cylinders have been re-bored and fitted with new pistons, gudgeon pins etc., all the bearings attended to, and among other things, a new high-tension current Bosch magneto fitted. The chassis is long and roomy, and I believe well-adapted to carry a body sufficient in length to divide into operating and prosthetic compartments.—Yours respectfully, J. T. Tunnock."

It was unanimously decided, on the motion of Dr. Yule, seconded by Dr. Lewis, to acknowledge gratefully the receipt of the letter, and to convey to Mr. Tunnock the thanks of the board for his patriotic action and generous gift.

Dr. Yule also reported that he received a letter from Mr. W. G. Strover, of North Carlton, chemist, asking the board to accept as a donation to the fund, an accompanying wallet of forceps. The offer was gratefully accepted

Examinations. — The following letter was received from the Registrar of the University:— Dear Sir,—I beg to advise you that the Professorial Board has now approved of the special legislation recently passed, and the alterations in terms and dates of examinations as set out in your letter of the 22nd July.—Yours faithfully, J. P. Bainbridge, Registrar.

It was decided that the annual examinations should commence on the 27th of September. The examiners in the various subjects were appointed by the board.

Alleged Infringement of the Act.—A case of alleged infringement of the law was brought under the notice of the board, and the Registrar was directed to make an immediate investigation into the circumstances.

Legal.

Prosecutions Under the Poisons Act.

FELLOW'S SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHITES.

At the police court, Seymour, on September 20, before Messrs. Knight, P.M., Ramsay and Chittick, J's.P., Charles Leslie Butchers, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, proceeded against J. Hall, storekeeper, for having sold a preparation of strychnine, to wit Fellow's syrup of hypophosphites, the defendant not being a legally qualified medical practitioner, a registered pharmaceutical chemist, or a person holding a license to sell poisons.

Mr. W. E. Pearcey appeared for the informant, and Mr. J. P. Minogue for the defendant, who was not present

Mr Pearcey briefly outlined the facts of the case, and pointed out that the Board had found it necessary to institute proceedings on account of the difficulty in tracing sales of poisons where fatalities had occurred. The article in question was not only sold illegally, but it was not labelled with the word "Poison," and did not bear the name and address of the seller. It was a dangerous article to distribute without proper warning on the label that it was poison. Strychnine was a most potent poison, and it was necessary that the strictest precautions should be taken regarding its sale.

John Joseph Geraghty, Inspector for the Pharmacy Board, stated that he visited the defendant's shop on September 3rd, and purchased a bottle of Bellow's syrup, produced, for which he paid 6s. He initialed the wrapper, and handed the bottle in the same condition to Mr Butchers.

To Mr Minogue—Defendant told me that he had sold a good quantity of the medicine.

Charles Leslie Butchers, Registrar of the Board, said he received the bottle, produced, from the previous witness, and handed it to the Government Medico-Legal Analyst, whose report he produced. The syrup contained nearly 1½ oz., or 82 teaspoonfuls. It was found to contain equivalent to 1.23 grains or 0.0197 per cent. of pure strychnine. Witness produced formal evidence that defendant was not entitled to sell poisons. The maximum B.P. dose of strychnine was one fifteenth of a grain. If a child took a tablespoonful of the medicine it would probably die. A quarter of a grain had been known to kill an adult.

Mr. Knight said that the bench regarded it as a very dangerous thing to put an article like this in the hands of the public without properly labelling it. It was a serious offence, but as it was the first prosecution in the district, he thought a fine of £2 would meet the case.

Mr. Pearcey asked for £4 5s. od. costs, which the bench granted. Mr Knight remarking that he did not see why the Board should be out of pocket in cases of this kind.

PITT'S WHEAT.

At the same court, H. Russell, storekeeper, Seymour, was proceeded against on a similar charge in regard to the sale of Pitt's Poisoned Wheat. Defendant pleaded guilty to the charge. Formal evidence regarding the purchase and analysis was given. The report of the Government Medico-Legal Analyst showed that the packet weighed nearly 3 oz., and was found to contain 1.20 grains of strychnine hydrochlor, which was equivalent to 0.015 per cent.

Mr Butchers stated that the poison was a dangerous one, and 20 or 30 grains taken by a child would probably be fatal. The packet was not labelled with the address of the seller, as required by the Act. It was also distinctly stated on the label that it was only retailed by chemists and druggists.

Mr Knight said that the bench did not view this case as so serious a light as the former charge, as persons getting possession of the wheat would not be likely to eat it. The packet was also marked poison.

Defendant would be fined 10s. with £4 5s. 0d. costs.

Serious Poisoning Case.

Chemist and Doctor Committed for Trial.

"Prescription" or "Order."

At Wanbra, near Ballarat, on August 27, Mr Read Murphy, P.M., held an inquest concerning the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Browne, who died on August 25.

Inspector Sampson, instructed by Detective-Sergeant Rogerson, conducted the case for the police; Mr. H. Curwen-Walker appeared for Dr Lade, who had attended the deceased; and Mr W. E. Pearcey for Mr. W. H. Cornell, chemist.

The evidence showed that deceased had been confined on August 14, and that later on the doctor had ordered a tonic, which he brought to the house in a green bottle. A witness gave the doctor a pen and ink, and he wrote on the label, "one tablespoonful after breakfast and dinner." Dr Lade said to witness: "Do not give her this medicine, Nurse, until I communicate with the chemist." Later on Mrs. Harrison, wife of the local postmaster, called on witness and said, "It is all right." On 25th deceased took a tablespoonful in a little water after breakfast. In less than 10 minutes deceased asked if she had been poisoned, and went into a fit, with a dreadful twitching in the back, and then discolouration. She died in about 20 to 25 minutes after taking the dose. The doctor came about 20 minutes after she took the dose. She had just died.

Annie Cunninghame, chemist's assistant, in the employ of Mr Cornell, of Sturt-street, Ballarat, said she passed a Preliminary Apprenticeship Examination. Between 5 and 6 o'clock p.m. on August 23 Dr. Lade called at the shop, and said, "I want a bottle of liquor strych. hydrochloride, five minims to the half-ounce, 8 oz. and 8 oz. eucalyptus." Witness wrote the order down and placed it on the dispensing table. (A facsimile of the order is reproduced on insert page.—Ed. "N.L.P.") Shortly after 6 o'clock witness saw Mr Cornell, but could not remember whether she spoke to him or not.

Mr. Pearcey: You have been an apprentice for some time?—Yes.

How long?—About 2½ years.

Why didn't you make up the other part of the order?—It was poison.

The P.M.: You don't make up poison orders?—No.

Did you give it to anybody else to make up?—I left it on the dispensing counter.

Did you see the order again next morning?—Yes; I inquired who it was to be charged up to, and I was told Dr. Lade.

What became of the order?—I just crumpled it up and threw it into the rubbish box.

The Coroner: Did you take down the order exactly as directed by Dr. Lade?—Yes.

Is it now in exactly the same condition as it was when you placed it on the dispensing desk?—Yes

Dr. Leonard Cyril Lade, residing at Learmonth, said he had been attending Mrs. Browne for her confinement. She got on fairly well. He saw her on August 23. She was inclined to be depressed, and he said he would give her a tonic. He was called into Ballarat that afternoon, and overlooked leaving the tonic ready. While in Ballarat he called at Mr. Cornell's shop, and gave certain directions to the previous witness. He gave Miss Cunninghame the direction as written on the paper produced, except that she neglected to put down "water, half an ounce." Subsequently he took the articles away, and at 5 o'clock on Tuesday evening he opened the parcel, and found the bottle produced. He inwardly cursed the chemist for putting a label on the bottle. He caught hold of the nearest knife and scratched out the words, "liq. strych.," and put the bottle in his pocket. He called at Mrs. Browne's about 7.15 p.m. on 24th, and wrote the directions now on it—"One tablespoon after breakfast and after dinner." As he handed it back the fancy flashed across his mind, "I wonder if Cornell made this up properly?" and he said to Mrs. Hicks, "I didn't make this up myself; I got it in Ballarat. Don't give it till I ring Ballarat up."

Inspector Sampson: What caused you to have any doubt?—It was not a doubt, it was just a fancy.

Was it in consequence of the label being insufficient?—No; it was a thing I might do at any time. One gets into the habit. When you dispense yourself you prefer to take your own stuff to anybody's else's.

What is the custom as between doctors and chemists? Is this procedure that you have followed the custom, to give a verbal order?—It is a thing I have done; it is not my custom. I make up my own prescriptions.

You don't give what you want in writing?—No.

Isn't that what might be considered a loose custom?—I think not.

You are not likely to get such accuracy that way, are you?

The P.M.: If it is a custom of the medical profession, I don't think we should go behind that.

There was never any doubt in my mind as to danger. There was just the thought—"Has this mixture been made up correctly to my order?"

Witness, continuing, said when he got back home he rang up Ballarat several times, but failed to "raise" it. He intended to ring up Cornell's and make inquiries about the prescription. After about a quarter of an hour he called himself a fool, and rang up Mrs. Harrison, and told her to tell Mrs. Hicks to give the dose as directed. He was in his bath next morning when called. Before he went he rang up Ballarat, and asked to speak to the assistant, and asked her what about the mixture—was it made up all right? She replied, "Yes, I think so. I didn't make it up, Mr. Cornell made it up." He recognised Miss Cunninghame's voice. He asked for Mr. Cornell, but he was not in. He asked Miss Cunninghame to communicate with him and ring him up, and then he dressed, and as the telephone had not gone he rang up again, and asked Mr. Cornell about the mixture. Mr. Cornell replied that he made it up. Witness said, "As I directed?" Mr. Cornell said, "I sent the pure B.P." As far as witness remembered he said "Good God!" and rang off. He put his things together, and rang up Dr. Davies, and told him to come out immediately. He then proceeded to Waubra. He arrived at Mrs. Browne's between 20 and 25 minutes after he was first called. He found Mrs. Browne was dead. There were no definite symptoms of strychnine poisoning, or as to the cause of death.

The P.M.: Why did you scratch out the words "liq. strych.?"—Because it is not the custom to let patients know what they are taking.

Did you see the bottle was labelled poison?—Yes.

And that in connection with the other words would you take to mean a poison?—Yes.

Then, why did you give an order for the deceased to take enough of it to kill immediately?—Because I took it to be different from what it was described on the label.

Can you explain why you thought the chemist had put on an incorrect label?—It was not an incorrect label, but I thought he would have put a blank label on, of course with the "poison," because I had told the girl "that makes the dose half an ounce."

Inspector Sampson: Does that disclose a reason for you having a doubt about the contents of the bottle, because a blank label had not been put on?—No.

The Coroner: Was there a reason to cause you great mental disturbance at that time?—No.

Inspector Sampson: Do you say that stuff which you received is not what you ordered?—It is not.

In what respect do they differ?—This is the pure "B.P." liquor. I ordered a liquor in a diluted state.

Mr. Pearcey: How do you know it is not what you ordered?—From the result, and also by Mr. Cornell's statement.

To make it what you ordered, one would simply add some water to a proportion of that?—Yes.

That was properly labelled before you touched it to describe what was in it.—It might have described what was in the bottle, and it might have described what I had ordered.

Is that the proper way to describe liquor strych.?—Yes.

What strength of liquor strych. did the label convey to you?—That it was the stuff I ordered.

The P.M.: I understand that with medical men and chemists liquor strychnine means strychnine of a poisonous strength.

Witness: To my mind it would mean a solution of strychnine in water of no particular strength unless the strength were inferred by the words "B.P." (British Pharmacopoeia).

Mr. Pearcey: What strength of strychnine did that label communicate to you?—It communicated to me that it was the stuff I had ordered.

The P.M.: Could you tell by the taste whether it was of a poisonous or tonic strength?—I could not.

I thought the poisonous strength would have a strong bitter?—I have never tasted either.

Mr. Pearcey: This label, to your mind, described the diluted mixture you had asked for?—Yes.

You had doubts whether you got the proper mixture in that bottle?—No, I had no doubts. I never gave the matter a thought.

And yet you told them not to take it until you had enquired?—That was at the time I scratched the label off that I speak of.

The Coroner: It is very dangerous to handle strychnine without giving it a thought.

Mr. Pearcey (handing up the bottle of mixture): Is that not a poison bottle, one into which a chemist is required by law to put poison?—Yes.

Read the words on the back of the bottle. What are they?—"Not to be taken."

That is blown in the glass?—Yes.

What more could a chemist do to tell anybody that it was a poison that was in the bottle?—I say it was the ordinary way in which a poison would be dispensed to the public, but not to me.

Do you want the Coroner to say that this was a prescription?—I want him to understand that I dictated a prescription.

How long have you been getting medicines from Cornell's?—Since September 1, 1914.

If you were making up a medicine yourself, a tonic, would you put it in a bottle like that?—If it were poison.

An ordinary tonic?—Yes, if it contained a poisonous substance it would be labelled poison.

"Not to be taken."—No.

Would you put it in a bottle with the words blown into it "not to be taken"?—If I had such a bottle.

What label would you put?—It would have a poison label on it with my directions.

You regarded this as a prescription?—Yes. When I gave the order to the assistant I said "That makes two and a half ounces."

You did not tell the assistant specifically that this medicine was for a patient?—No.

There was nothing to show the chemist you were not going to dispense this yourself?—Except the dilution I asked for, which would be an uncomfortable dilution to work with.

Isn't a bottle such as that a danger signal?—To the public, not to me.

Was not the reason you telephoned to the chemist because of what was on the label?—No.

Mr. Curwen-Walker: You ordered strychnine and water?—Yes.

And presumably this is strychnine and water?—Yes.

The difference would be the strength?—Yes.

B.P. is the standard strength?—Yes, 1 per cent.

And what proportion of that would the order be?—Five minims to the half-ounce, roughly about 48 to 50 dilutions.

One is about 50 times the strength of the other?—Yes.

Would a solution of minims to the half-ounce be marked poison?—Yes.

And in a coloured bottle?—Yes.

How would you expect a 1 per cent. solution to be labelled?—I would expect it to be labelled "B.P."

Would it be the usual quantity of B.P.?—I have never ordered so much.

That quantity would go a very long way?—It would last for years.

Mr. Pearcey: You have bought strychnine of this strength before from Mr. Cornell?—Yes, but in very much smaller quantities.

Have you ever obtained poison with a blank label?—I cannot say that I have.

Inspector Sampson: Would you dispense a mixture containing strychnine in a white bottle?—As a mixture. I have received it in a white bottle.

How would you label it?—Poison.

Dr. Sloss, who conducted the post-mortem examination of the body of the deceased, deposed that the left lung showed signs of congestion, and the right lung was also congested.

The Coroner: What was the cause of death?—I could not absolutely say until the contents of the stomach have been analysed.

What in your opinion is the cause of death?—There are certain indistinct signs of strychnine poisoning, and I recommended that the contents of the stomach be analysed.

The Coroner (handing witness the bottle)—Would you take that to be a strychnine tonic, or a poison not to be taken?—I would say not to be taken.

Is that the usual way that chemists put up a poison apart from a tonic poison?—Yes.

Would you suggest that the contents of the bottle be analysed?—Yes.

What in your opinion is the cause of death?—I cannot give an opinion until the contents of the stomach have been analysed.

Did you see anything apart from strychnine poisoning to cause sudden death?—No.

Mr. Pearcey: A mixture for a patient would not be put in a bottle like this?—Not usually. I have known it to be done in country places.

To Mr. Curwen-Walker.—It was an unusual prescription. It was such as might be handed in by a doctor for himself. The ingredients would be taken as a prescription.

To Inspector Sampson: He thought there was nothing in the scratching off of "liq. strych.," except with a view of not wanting the patient to know what was in the bottle. The thing was still marked poison. He did not know how the patient would take it.

The P.M.: Are not all medicines containing poison marked poison?—Not from prescriptions.

The P.M.: The patient was told by the doctor to take this.

Miss Cunningham, recalled, said the doctor said to her, "I want a bottle of liquor strychnine hydrochloride, five minims to the half ounce, eight ounces." She repeated it to him, and he watched her write it down. She did not remember him saying anything about water.

The Coroner: Could he have seen what you had written?—As far as I can remember, he was looking over at what I wrote.

Inspector Sampson: Do you remember the doctor having said anything about water?—No.

Walter Henry Cornell, chemist, of Sturt-street, Ballarat, deposed that he had been in the habit of making up orders for Dr. Lade. On the 23rd inst., shortly after 6 o'clock, Miss Cunninghame told him there was an order from Dr. Lade, who would return later for it. When the doctor called back the order had not been made up. Witness asked him to wait in his car while he returned into the shop to get the things required. The order, which was on the dispensing table, was, from what he could see, for liquor strych. hyd. and 8 oz. eucalyptus. Witness took an eight-ounce poison bottle, filled it with liquor strych. from a stock bottle, wrapped it up with the bottle of eucalyptus, and took it out to the doctor. He left the order on the counter, to be entered up. He did not know that the words "minims 5 to half-ounce" were on the order. These words were covered by the eucalyptus bottle standing on the order, and he just looked down at the order without removing the bottle.

The Coroner: You did not make up the prescriptions according to directions?—No.

Why?—Because I did not see the words "minims 5 to half-ounce." I did not take it as a prescription, but as a wholesale order. Liquor strych. 8 oz. would be a reasonable article for me to supply in the circumstances.

Do you usually make up poisons without carefully looking through prescriptions?—No.

Then why did you not make this up according to directions?—Because I did not see "minims 5 to the half-ounce."

Why did you not see them?—Because I looked at the prescription without removing the bottle of eucalyptus from it.

The Coroner: It is the most disgraceful carelessness I have ever heard of in my long experience. However, you will have an opportuity of answering fully elsewhere. Was everything done according to the custom of chemists to label this bottle to show that the contents were not to be taken?—Everything.

Inspector Sampson: Had you seen what was covered up by the eucalyptus bottle, would you have dispensed the order differently to what you did?—Yes. I would have put it up in a clear bottle, because I would have understood him to mean that he wanted five drops to the half-ounce bottle. I would have taken it to be a prescription and labelled it to be taken as the doctor ordered. No, on second thoughts, I would have labelled it "liquor strych., five minims to the half ounce." That would have been the most reasonable. I would have labelled it "poison."

What rules govern the use of these poisons bottles?—Dangerous poisons and articles for external use.

Mr. Pearcey: You have supplied strychnine in this form before to the doctor?—Yes.

It would be required in his dispensary?—Yes.

The doctor called for the order on the 24th inst. while you were making up another prescription?—Yes. I ran out and said "I will have your order ready in a moment."

Was there anything in the order as you saw it to show you that it was to be taken by somebody?—No.

Till you had got the telephone message I suppose you had no idea what had been supplied was not what was ordered?—No. I had no idea.

The eucalyptus bottle was there standing on the order. You did not put it there?—That is so.

You took it to be an order for strychnine and eucalyptus?—Yes.

Do you call that a prescription?—No.

What is it?

The Coroner: It speaks for itself. I would very clearly call it a prescription.

Mr. Pearcey: I contend it is merely an order for drugs.

The Coroner: A prescription is an order for drugs.

Mr. Curwen-Walker: Had you read the order fully, you would have diluted it to something like a 50th of its present strength?—Yes.

It would be superfluous to put "B.P."?—There was only one officid liquor strychnine, and that was B.P.

The Coroner: If a normal adult took a tablespoonful of this mixture after breakfast, would it cause death?—Certainly.

This was the evidence.

The Coroner: If the legal gentlemen wish to speak, I will hear them.

Mr. Curwen-Walker: I think it would be only wasting time.

The Coroner: If this case ends now, I will commit the chemist and the doctor for trial for manslaughter

Mr. Pearcey said there was nothing to show that the chemist did anything to supply the mixture to anyone. He had simply supplied it to the doctor, to whom he had supplied drugs for a very long time. The chemist did everything possible to show what he sold and what he intended to sell was properly labelled. He (Mr. Pearcey) could not see that there was any negligence on the chemist's part.

Mr. Curwen-Walker said it was quite clear the doctor gave the chemist the prescription he meant to give, and did not see why he should be brought into it. The fact that his prescription was not read by the person who made it up was not his fault. There was no reason why he should be brought into it. He had given the proper order, and there his responsibility ended.

Mr. Murphy said this was an extraordinary case in which the chemist and the doctor both made blunders for which he could, as at present, see no excuse or explanation. The chemist got a prescription to make up, a very deadly drug, and did not properly read the prescription, a most extraordinary thing. The doctor got the prescription labelled "poison," and "not to be taken," and did not take the trouble to inquire whether the chemist had labelled it correctly or incorrectly, and these extraordinary mistakes had

been responsible for the death of the deceased. It was not for him to say who was the most or least to blame. He had one duty, and that was to commit both for trial at the next gaol delivery. They would be committed for trial on manslaughter to the Ballarat General Sessions on 5th October. The stomach and other organs would be kept for examination, but the evidence was perfectly conclusive that death was due to strychnine poisoning. Bail would be allowed the doctor and the chemist at £100 each, and another of £100.

P. D. L.

The Directors met at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on September 9.

Present.—The President (Mr. F. Backhurst) in the chair, and Messrs. Francis, Gulliver, Peters and White. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Malvon and Rankin.

Correspondence.—Mr. Geo. May wrote resigning his membership, as he was retiring from pharmacy. His successor, Mr. R. F. Holdsworth, applied to become a member.

Secretary, New South Wales Branch, wrote forwarding application on behalf of nine new members, and asking if the proprietor of a pharmacy, who was not a registered chemist, could become a member. To be informed that under the Articles of Association only duly registered pharmacists were eligible for membership.

Mr. T. M. Young, Local Secretary, South Australia, forwarded application for membership on behalf of Mr. H. A. Binks, St. Peters. Mr. Young asked for a supply of literature, as he was desirous of circularising likely new members. The Secretary was instructed to forward copies of the pamphlet, "Why You Should Join the P.D.L."

Legal Advice.—A member applied for legal advice as to the liability of certain workmen engaged in making alterations to his pharmacy, to replace a show-case which was said to have been damaged by their negligence. The solicitor advised that on the facts it would be a difficult matter to establish a case, and he, therefore, advised a settlement out of court.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were elected:—

Binks, Fred. A., St. Peters, S. Aust.
Bailey, Harold E., Windsor, Vic.
Holdsworth, Robert E., Richmond, Vic.
Whitney, Wm. C., Malvern, Vic.
Birch, David, Neutral Bay, N.S.W.
Weymouth, Alma, Ashfield, N.S.W.
Emert, Fred. W., Croydon Park, N.S.W.
Hislop, Geo. R., Petersham, N.S.W.
Larker, Joseph, Lismore, N.S.W.
Butterfield, J. H., Mascot, N.S.W.
Keith, Georgina, Annandale, N.S.W.
Turnbull, Fred. G., Sutherland, N.S.W.
Belcher, Dudley R., North Sydney, N.S.W.

German Trade-marks.—A member complained that a line of so-called Aspirin Tablets, which were being retailed by grocers and others, were improperly labelled, and did not comply with the required tests. It was decided to take certain action re the matter.

Hamba Poisoning Case.—The chairman, in committee, referred to this matter, and reported the steps he had taken to protect Mr. Cornell's interests. Chairman's action endorsed.

Renewals, 1915-16.—Secretary reported that subscriptions and renewals for the year 1915-16 became due and payable before 30th September. Notices had been forwarded to all members, advising them that their policies expired on the date mentioned. A large number of renewals have already been received.

Alteration of Articles.—The chairman said that in consequence of the establishment of branches in the other States, it had been found necessary to amend the company's articles of association. The Secretary said he had been asked by the Queensland directors to provide for branch representation on the central board. It was decided to adopt the suggestion, and to make provision for the chairman of each State branch to be ex officio a member of the central board. Other alterations proposed fixed the minimum indemnity policy at £200, instead of £100 as at present. In connection with branch pharmacies, each shop would require to be covered for £200. Increased powers were to be given to local boards, and no expenditure from the Reserve Fund exceeding £100 was to be incurred without consulting all the representatives on the central board. Other minor amendments were also considered. It was ordered that the revised Articles be referred to the solicitor, circulated to members in due course, and submitted to a special meeting of members to be held on the date of the annual meeting.

Queensland Branch.—Secretary reported having attended a meeting of the Queensland directors during his stay in Brisbane. Everything was now working smoothly, and the branch already had a membership of fifty.

Proposed Wages Board.—A deputation was received asking the Directors to withdraw their opposition to the granting of a Wages Board for chemists' assistants. Certain reasons were given why such a board would be in the best interests of pharmacists generally. It was resolved that if a proper assistants' and dispensers' association were formed the Directors would bring the matter before a general meeting of pharmacists.

Annual Report.—Consideration was given to the draft of the third annual report, which was left in the Secretary's hands, with instructions to have a copy forwarded to every pharmacist in business in Australia.

British Defence Association.—A copy of the report of the 14th Annual Meeting of the British Chemists' Defence Association Ltd. was laid on the table. This showed that the increase in the membership had during the year been steady and quite up to the average. Claims for dam-

ages had been somewhat smaller, and legal advice had been sought after, much on the usual lines. With regard to police court cases, they had been interested in several of extreme importance to the trade, especially those dealing with salt of tartar and the Wincarnis with quinine case. At the last annual meeting it had been decided to form a Veterinary Section, but owing to the war this section had not been proceeded with. Mr. Atkinson, who spoke on the report, mentioned that he had heard of a pharmacist who had to pay £40 damages and costs over a mishap. Unfortunately for him he was not a member of the C.D.A. at the time, and a case of this sort shows how wise it is that all chemists should be members. Dr. Barnes, another member, considered that the advice they received as members from time to time on various subjects was quite worth the subscription. The Association looked after its members in a great variety of ways, and was a distinct help to them all.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Francis) submitted the monthly financial statement, which showed a credit balance of £80 os. 6d. in the General Fund, and £616 16s. 4d. in the Reserve Fund.

Accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

P.A.T.A.

VICTORIA.

The Council of the Victorian P.A.T.A. issued a supplementary Protected Price List on September 6, containing the following new lines which have been placed on the list:—Apos Tooth Paste, Atkinson's Perfumery, Dearborn Ltd. Goods, Euthymol Shaving Soap, Lactogen No. 2 and 3, Nazetha Pastilles, Ozonia Preparations, Parviola Perfumery and Soaps, Piver's Eau de Cologne and Soaps, Scholz's Liniments and Ointment, Wright's Rheumatic Remedy. Alterations and corrections in the prices of the following articles also appear in the list:—Allenbury's Medicated Throat Pastilles, Allenbury's Fruit Pastilles (2 sizes), Allenbury's Malted Rusks, Apos Preparations, Lane's Emulsion No. 2, Nestle's Milk Food and Starchless Food (reduced to 1/6 to the public), "Trident" Liquid Paraffin, Albulactin No. 2, Rocke's Almond Meal and Citrate of Magnesia, "Trident" Lanoline.

Disguising the Odor of Kerosene.

"How can kerosene be deodorised for use as a vehicle in a mosquito lotion? According to the *Bulletin of Pharmacy*, the following is an excellent method for deodorising kerosene. However, as much of the value of a lotion for preventing the bites of mosquitoes depends upon the presence of an odor objectionable to the insects you might try masking or disguising the kerosene smell. Oil of pennyroyal, oil of cedar leaves, oil of citronella, and naphthalene are all repusive to mosquitoes, and serve, at the same time, as effective agents for covering up the peculiar odor of the kerosene.

Correspondence.

A Pharmacist's Travels.

The Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—I read with keen enjoyment Mr. George Pleasance's chatty and delightful notes of travel in your August number. Mr. Pleasance, however, will have to make his humble apology to Clio, the Muse of History, for one statement. He has transported the site of the battle of Marston Moor from the eastern to the western side of England. Marston Moor is in the West Riding of Yorkshire, 7 miles west of York, and not in Cheshire.

This curious slip, which I hope it will not be considered pedantic to notice, does not in the least detract from the interest of Mr. Pleasance's paper, which I found exceptionally bright and racy.—Faithfully yours,

JAMES CLEZY.

The New B. P.

The Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—The Metropolitan Chemists' Association are issuing free to members, through the secretaries of the local sections, 50 circles in red and 50 in blue, as per specimens enclosed, for fixing to containers to indicate which B.P. the preparation was made according to. There is a blank space left in each circle, which may be used for marking the dose, or making other note. If not required, it may be cut off. Fifty of each may be more than required for immediate use, but the balance will do for replacing those that have become shop soiled. Extra sets of circles have been printed, so as to enable any pharmacist in the State to obtain a set. Price 1/-, post free, from Mr. A. L. J. Peters, Hon. Gen. Sec. of the Association, 50 William-street, Melbourne. The labels are as follows:—

Printed in Red.

Printed in Blue.

Yours, etc.,

G. H. BARTLEMAN,
President.

Saturday Half Holiday.

To the Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—"The Journal" of August 20th reports that the petitions for Saturday afternoon closing are still being persevered with, the time being extended from month to month, in the hope of get-

ting further signatures. These are grave times, and I had hoped that the gentlemen in charge of this movement would have recognised the inappropriateness of forcing the issue at the present moment.

It is a striking fact that chemists, with their admittedly small turnover, are the only body of traders seeking at present to limit their hours of trading, and to convert the best business day of the week into a second Sunday. All the other Fourth Schedule shops are sitting tight, and fighting to hold the privileges they possess. On enquiring the opinions of representative men in the craft, in the city and suburbs, strong opposition was expressed to the movement, under existing circumstances. The enormously increased price of drugs, higher cost of living, bad season, and the serious outlook of the war, were on all sides given as sound reasons for opposing the movement. Throughout the country districts, Saturday is slowly but surely coming into its own. Stawell, Ararat, Beaufort, and other towns, after closing on Saturday, have been granted exemptions by the Cabinet, and are closing on Wednesday. The sub-leader of the "Argus" on August 4th re the Saturday half-holiday, furnishes interesting reading, as showing the concessions, granted by the Government to the country towns, owing to the pressure brought to bear. In this connection, I understand the Factories Department is not prepared to entertain any petition, unless the majority is a substantial one.

A further disability is that anyone employing an assistant must give him his usual afternoon and evening off during the week, in addition to the Saturday, so that the assistant actually gets two afternoons off.

Personally I am strongly opposed to interfering with Saturday in any way, and am prepared to actively co-operate with all those holding similar views to myself.—Yours, etc.,

CHAS. E. KEAYS.

Newmarket.

Saturday Afternoon Closing.

The Editor, *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,

No doubt you are aware of a petition being signed by city and suburban pharmacists to enforce the closing of chemists' shops between the hours of 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays. Surely, in a time like the present, when things are so very unsettled, this curtailment of business hours might well have been allowed to stand over. No business man knows from one day to the other what extra taxation he will be called upon to meet. In our particular case, the supply of drugs threatens to be still further cut off, and no one knows when he individually may be called upon to serve his country. These, to my humble mind, are sufficient reasons for any sane individual, that he should not be tied down by a number of men, who, if they wished to close, could do so of their own accord without forcing their brother pharmacists to bend to their wishes.

When the petition was started seven months ago, things were in a very different state to what they are at present, and everybody was hopeful that this great war would be brought to an early end; but the ending seems just as far off as ever. To show the feelings of the other chemists in this district, I might state there are six of us here and only one, I am pleased to say, has thought fit to sign this ridiculous petition. To show my feelings in this matter, I am quite willing to employ a man on a Saturday to attend to my business, and pay him extra for his afternoon's relieving, and to give up my personal pleasure of the Saturday afternoon off towards helping our great national cause.

Trusting you will find space to publish this letter.—Yours, etc.,

H. C. DYTE.

Northcote, September 8, 1915.

The Editor, *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—

I am told that those who have been engineering the movement for closing from 1 till 6 p.m. on Saturdays have succeeded in their object and induced a majority of chemists to sign their petition. Have these chemists fully realised that this means that assistants will generally only have to work four afternoons per week, and do they consider this a fair week's work or fair to the employer? By law we are now obliged to give an assistant one full half day in each week. Sunday does not count, and Saturday must be excluded, as the assistant will have to return in the evening from 6 to 8 p.m. Therefore, an additional half-day will require to be given. If the law can be amended so that it is not necessary to give the afternoon and evening consecutively that is another matter; but until this can be done the proposition is distinctly unfair. Apart from this, I do not think the present is the proper time to make an experiment which, in most cases, will still further reduce the pharmacist's earnings.—Yours, etc.,

GEORGE FRANCIS.

September 8, 1915.

Appreciation of Journal.

To the Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—On behalf of the Tutorial Board of this Institution, I beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the regular receipt of copies of your excellent publication. We are responsible for the training of a large number of students, and we find it essential to have an independent supply of current technical literature. Our instructors, therefore, desire me to state that your liberal action has been of the greatest assistance in maintaining our library at the necessary high standard of efficiency.—Yours, etc.,

L. ST. G. P. AUSTEN,
Registrar.

The School of Mines and Industries,
Ballarat, 7th September, 1915.

Lysol Trade Mark.

The Editor, *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Sir,—

Will you kindly inform us through your columns whether it is permissible for anyone to sell lysol in Australia, such not being Pearson's. We thank you in anticipation.—Yours, etc.,

H. L.

Launceston,
September 10, 1915.

[The Lysol trade mark has been suspended in favour of Pearson's Antiseptic Co. Ltd., London; Mr. James McGirr, Parkes, N.S.W.; Mr. Gynlais W. O. Jones, of 1 Manningtree-road, Hawthorn; and Mr. H. T. Phipson, 40 Pitt-street, Sydney. Evans, Sons, Lescher and Webb (Colonial) Ltd. have also applied for a suspension in their favour. The firms who have been granted licenses are entitled to manufacture and sell lysol. Anyone purchasing from them has the right to re-sell.—Ed., A.J.P.]

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

September Examination Questions.

Preliminary Examination.

LATIN.—Accidence, Syntax, Composition. — Caesar, Gallic War, Book I., Chapter 1-20; or Vergil, Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401.

Time allowed.—Two hours and a half.

1. Translate either both the given pieces from Caesar or both from Vergil.

2. Parse the words in italics in the passages chosen for translation.

N.B.—In parsing noun or adjective give nominative and genitive in full in Latin, number, gender, case, and full syntax; in parsing verb give principal parts in full, person, number, tense, mood, voice, and full syntax.

3. Decline, giving meaning and gender of nouns, meaning of adjectives and pronouns:—nouns—corpus, vis, domus; adjectives — prudens, audax; pronouns—aliquis, quisque.

4. Give in columns the meaning, gender, genitive and ablative cases, singular and plural, for the following nouns:—arx, agmen, carcer, dies, frons.

5. (a) Give meaning and comparison of—pulcher, gracilis, bonus, iuvenis, nequam, pius, digne, gravius, magnopere, prope, diu, crebro.

(b) Translate in Latin—7, 27, 12 each, ten times, 100,000 soldiers, 500 horsemen.

6. (a) Mention, with their meaning, six prepositions which govern the accusative, and six which govern the ablative.

(b) How do you express extent of space in Latin? Translate—They advanced many miles.

(c) Explain how negative commands in the second person are phrased in Latin. Translate in two ways—Do not go out of the town.

7. (a) Write out the chief parts and meanings of—exco, vincio, compello, sepelio, seco, ludo, labor, nitor, experior.

(b) Write out in full these tenses—
Future indic. passive—aperio.
Pres. subj. active—solvo.
Perf. subj. active—cano.
Plup. subj. active—sterno.
All imperative, active, and passive of premo.

8. Translate into Latin—
(a) Many of our soldiers have fallen in the great war.
(b) If you were to go to Rome you would see the games.
(c) Rome was founded many years ago by Romulus.

ARITHMETIC.—Time allowed: Two hours and a half.—All the steps of the solution must be clearly and neatly set out. All necessary figurings should be done apart from the solution in a margin ruled for the purpose.

1. Convert each of these vulgar fractions into a decimal and give their sum in decimal form:—

$$\frac{38}{100} + \frac{247}{10000} - \frac{8074}{1000000}$$

2. Reduce to simplest form—

$$\frac{\frac{2}{5} \quad +\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{7}}{1 - \frac{1}{25}} \Bigg/ 1 - \frac{1}{7}\left(\frac{\frac{2}{5}}{1 \quad \frac{1}{25}} + \frac{1}{3}\right)$$

3. Find the value of

$$\frac{3}{4} \text{ of } \frac{1}{9\frac{1}{2}} \text{ of } £1\ 18s. + \frac{2}{3} \text{ of } .375 \text{ of } 15s.$$

4. By drawing off 2,702½ cubic feet of water I cause the surface of the water in a reservoir to sink 30 inches; what is the length of the reservoir?

5. If 9 men do ⅗ of a piece of work in 14 days working 10 hours a day, how many extra men must be employed to finish the work in 5 days more, if all of them are now to work only 8 hours a day?

6. A sum of £1,250 was borrowed on the 1st April, 1915, and was repaid on the 25th August of the same year, with simple interest at 3¾ per cent. per annum. What sum did the borrower repay?

7. A ton of soda costs £4 13s. 4d.; for how much must 20 lbs. be sold to realise a profit of 25 per cent.?

8. Multiply 18 kilometres 15 decametres 3 metres 13 millimetres by 17: multiply 9 kilometres 15 decimetres 8 millimetres by 8: subtract the latter result from the former, and state the final result in metres.

9. Find the polar circumference of the earth, which is 40,000 metres, in miles to the nearest mile.

10. Glycerine has a specific gravity of 1.27. Find in kilogrammes the weight of 100 cubic decimetres of glycerine.

ENGLISH. — Time allowed: Two hours.—Grammar and Composition.—Literature, Hansen's Anthology for Schools, Section I.

1. Write an essay on—
The Red Cross Service in War Time:
The Submarine in War; or,
Irrigation Settlements.

Pay particular attention to your spelling and punctuation.

2. Give the general and the detailed analysis of the following passage:—

"At length, as the Goddess of Truth approached still nearer to her, she fell away entirely, and vanished amidst the brightness of her presence, so that there did not remain the least trace of her figure in the place where she had been seen."

3. Correct, giving your reasons, all the errors you find in the following sentences.—

(a) You may rely upon me doing all in my power.

(b) Sailing along the shore of the island, the scene changes.

(c) He spoke very stately and orderly.

(d) He was different to the rest of the workmen, and who were all more reluctant from beginning than him.

(e) I am not one of those who believe everything I hear.

(4) (a) Write short sentences in which the words "but" and "as" are used first as conjunctions, and secondly as adverbs.

(b) Write down the proper forms to use as the comparative and superlative of lazy, red, beautiful, cruel, much, far.

5. Name the authors of the following pieces, and give a brief summary of the contents of each:—The Knight's Oath, The Patriot, Of Kings' Treasuries, Duke of Marlborough.

6. (a) Name the clever improvisator referred to in the extract from Colonel Newcome.

(b) What knights were vanquished in the tournament by Ivanhoe?

(c) Name the counsel who appeared for Warren Hastings at his trial.

7. Explain, referring to the context—

(a) I that rather held it better men should perish one by one,
Than that earth should stand at gaze like Joshua's moon in Ajalon.

(b) I dare say I blushed, for I had been comparing him to the admirable Harley in the Critic.

8. Write out the following lines:—

(a) First two verses of "Break, Break, Break."

(b) Four lines beginning "The north wind blew."

(c) Eight lines from "My son, the oath is yours."

ALGEBRA.—Time allowed: Two hours.—All work must be shown, and all results must be in their simplest form.—The usual formulæ for rapid working should be applied.

1. Simplify

$$(x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 1)^2 - (x^3 - 2x^2 - 2x + 5)^2$$

2. Divide $a^4 + a^3x - 9a^2x^2 - 3ax^3 + 2x^4$ by $2x^2 + 2ax - x^2$.

3. Reduce to lowest terms—

$$\frac{x^3 - 8x^2 + 18x - 15}{x^4 - 2x^3 - 12x + 15}$$

4. Simplify

$$(i.) \quad \frac{b^2 - bc + c^2}{(a - b)(a - c)} + \frac{c^2 + ca + a^2}{(b - c)(b - a)} + \frac{a^2 + ab + b^2}{(c - a)(c - b)}.$$

$$(ii.) \quad 1 - \left(\frac{10x}{x^2 + 5x + 6} - \frac{5x - 20}{x^2 - 7x + 12}\right) - 1$$

5. Find the factors of

(i.) $12x^2 + 7x - 12$,

(ii.) $a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3 - 8c^3$,

(iii.) $a^2 - 2a - 4b^2 + 1$.

6. Solve the equation

$$3(x + 1)(x + 3) - 2(x^2 - 1) = (x - 1)^2 + 3(5x - 1).$$

7. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$7x + \frac{5y + 9x}{11} = 17;$$

$$9x + \frac{11y + 9x}{17} = 21.$$

8. Solve the quadratic equation

$$\frac{7x - 5}{x - 1} = \frac{10x + 51}{x + 9}$$

9. A farm of 864 acres is to be divided among A, B, and C. A is to get 5 acres for every 11 acres that B gets, and C is to get as much as A and B together. How much does each get?

10. A dealer bought a number of articles for £6 10s. Had he received 3 more for the same money he would have paid 3s. less for each article. How many did he buy?

EUCLID.—Books I. and II.—Time allowed: Two hours.

N.B.—All figures must be neatly and accurately drawn.

So-called proofs of propositions in Book II., in which geometrical lines and areas are treated throughout as algebraical quantities, will not be considered valid as geometrical proofs.

Students are requested to state what text-book on Geometry they have used in preparing for this examination.

1. If three sides of one triangle are respectively equal to three sides of another, the two triangles shall be equal in all respects.

ABC is an isosceles triangle; D is the mid-point of the base BC. Prove that AD bisects the vertical angle BAC.

2. If one side of a triangle is greater than another, the angle opposite the first-named side is greater than the angle opposite the other.

The straight line joining the vertex of an isosceles triangle to any point in the base is less than either of the equal sides of the triangle.

3. If a straight line falls on two parallel straight lines, it shall make the alternate angles equal to each other.

State the axiom you are using in proving this.

4. The straight lines which join the extremities of two equal and parallel straight lines towards the same parts are themselves equal and parallel.

The straight lines which join the extremities of two equal and parallel straight lines towards opposite parts bisect each other.

5. Parallelograms on equal bases and between the same parallels are equal in area.

6. If a straight line is divided into any two parts the square on the whole line is equal to the sum of the squares on the parts, together with twice the rectangle contained by the parts.

Hence prove that the square on a line is four times the square on half the line.

7. If a straight line is divided into two equal parts, and also into two unequal parts, the rectangle contained by the unequal parts, together with the square on the line between the points of section, shall be equal to the square on half the line. Hence deduce the algebraical formula—

$$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b).$$

8. Shew how to find a line the square on which shall be equal to a given triangle.

PRACTICAL PHARMACY.—Section I. (b). —Practical Dispensing and Prescription Reading. Examiners: Messrs. Buckhurst, Gulliver, and Sayer. No. 1 Practical Dispensing. Time allowed: One hour and a half.

1. R Syr. Ferri. Iodid. ℥ iv.
Sig. ℥ i. ex aqua nocte maneque.

2. R Acid. Arsenios gr. 1/20.
Strychnia gr. 1/15.
Pil. Bland gr. v.
Ft. pil. i. mitte xxiv. varnish.
Sig. ii. quat. die p. c.

3. R Creasoti *m* xvi.
Tr. Lobel. Eth. ℥ iii.
Mist. Ammoniaci ad ℥ viii. ft. mist
Sig. ℥ *fs.* q. q. h. dum opus sit.

No. 2.—At the termination of the Practical Dispensing examination, candidates will be examined orally in prescription reading.

Section I. (a).—Written Work.—Examiner: Mr. A. R. Bailey. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. Give the composition of the following B.P. preparations, viz., the ingredients and the proportions, the doses (if any), the antidotes (if any), and the incompatibilities of—

Liq. Hydrarg. Perchlor.	Tr. Cinchonae Co.
Phenazonum	Pulv. Antimonialis.
Syr. Chloral	Syr. Rhei
Pulv. Kino Co.	Chloroform
Pil. Saponis Co.	Tr. Colchici
Mist. Ferri Co.	Liq. Iodi Fort.
Terebenum	Pulv. Ipecac. Co.
Lin. Camph. Co.	

—[15 marks.]

2. Give, with reasons, the processes of manufacture of—

(a) Hydrargyri Perchloridum.
—[5 marks.]

(b) Hydrargyri Subchloridum.
—[5 marks.]

3. I wish to make an ℥ viii. mixture, containing 15 grains Calcium Lactate to each ℥ ss. How much Lactic Acid s.g. 1.210 will be required? —[5 marks.]

4. What is meant by the term—

(a) 1 Millitre?
(b) 1 litre?
(c) 1 dekagramme?

What is the relation of 1 c.c. to measures of capacity?

What is the relation of the Imperial Standards to the Metric Standards in—

1 pound?	1 fluid ounce?
1 ounce?	1 minim?
1 grain?	1 yard?
1 gallon?	1 foot?
1 pint?	1 inch?

—[15 marks.]

5. What would you supply if asked for?—

A.C.E.	Mindererus' Spirit
Oil of Spike	St. John Long's Liniment
Turpith Mineral	Copperas
Golden Ointment	Axungia
Salts of Tartar	Blue Butter
James's Powder	Hoffman's Anodyne
Basilicon Ointment	Goulard's Water
Chelsea Pensioner	Hiera Picra
Ferrier's Snuff	Imperial Drink
Red Lavender	Sal Alembroth.

—[10 marks.]

6. How much of the active ingredient is contained in—

R Tr. Cannabis Indicae ℥ ij.
Liq Arsenii et Hydrarg. Iodidi ℥ ij.
Ti. Nucis Vom. ℥ iij.
Ext. Cinchonae Liq. ℥ iv.
Inf. Cuspariae ad ℥ xij.
℥ iv. prodosis. —[10 marks.]

7. How would you dispense?—

(a) R Cocain Hydrochlor. gr. x.
Sol. Adrenalin Hydrochlor. ℥ i.
Sod. Bibor. gr. xx.
Aq. Formal (1.5000) ad ℥ *fs.*
m ft. guttae. —[5 marks.]

(b) Sod. Bicarb. ℥ iij.
Sod. Brom. ℥ iij.
Caffein. Cit. ℥ i.
Phenacetin *fs.*
Ext. Glycyrrhizae Liq. ℥ iij.
Inf. Gent. Co. ad. ℥ viii.
m ft. mist. —[5 marks.]

8. The B.P. states that 110 minims Liq. Strychninae Hydrochlor. contains 1 grain Strychnine Hydrochloride. Prove this statement.
—[5 marks.]

9. What are Tinctures? Describe in detail the various processes used in preparing them. What is repercolation— —[10 marks.]

10. What are the most suitable pill excipients for—

Ac. Carbol.	Pulv. Rhei
Argent Ox.	Menthol
Phosphorus	Quininae Sulph.
Chloral Hydrat	Potass. Permang.
Camphor	Ferri et Quininae Cit.

—[10 marks.]

Section III. (a).—Written Work.—Examiners: Mr. D. Avery, M.Sc., and Mr. A. W. Craig, M.A. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. Iron salts are estimated volumetrically by converting them from the ferrous to the ferric state by means of a N/10 solution of $K_2Cr_2O_7$ in acid solution.

Describe fully the preparation and action of this solution, and give also the means by which the end of the reaction is indicated.

2. Give an account of the preparation, purification, and properties of Glycerin.

Explain what is meant by describing it as a trihydric alcohol.

Describe also the preparation and properties of nitroglycerine obtained from it.

3. How are the metals iron and lead removed from the solution in the preparation of Liquor Zinci Chloridi?

4. By what tests is the presence of the elements Nitrogen and Phosphorus detected in organic compounds?

5. The three isomeric di-derivatives of benzene are spoken of as occupying the *ortho*, *meta*, and *para* positions respectively. What information is conveyed by this statement?

6. Give an account of the isolation and estimation of any one of the alkaloids.

7. Write a brief essay on Electrolysis.

Personal.

Mr. J. V. Kissick is relieving Mr. W. J. Bowen, Beechworth.

Mr. W. A. Gordon is at present assisting Mr. W. T. Woodhouse at St. Kilda.

Mr. C. H. Peacock is at present relieving at Messrs. Ball and Owen's, Geelong.

Miss Ethel S. Leon has been relieving at the Malvern dispensary during the month.

Mr. H. W. Mann has accepted an engagement with Messrs. Bain and Co., St. Kilda.

Mr. N. White, Russell-street, Melbourne, has engaged Mr. Hy. Williamson as manager.

Mr. James Hetherington is acting as locum for Mr. H. H. Brown, Morwell; he afterwards goes to Mr. G. J. Well's, Kyneton.

Miss A. Ulrich, at present at the Essendon C.E.S. Dispensary, is away on a holiday. Mr. W. L. Treen is in charge during her absence.

Mr. D. Shaw after relieving Mr. Percy King, Stawell, was for a few days relieving Mr. W. J. Williamson, East Melbourne. On completing this engagement, he goes to Mr. A. A. Lord, Swan Hill.

Trade Notes.

Mr. Geo. May has disposed of his business in Bridge road, Richmond, to his late assistant, Mr. R. E. Holdsworth.

Mr. F. H. Brady, late manager for Mr. F. Backhurst, Camberwell, has purchased Mr. A. W. McGibbony's pharmacy at Wedderburn.

Mr. W. B. Reid, late of Malvern, has opened a new pharmacy in Bourke-street, Melbourne, east of Russell street.

Messrs. Potter and Birks, Ltd., Sydney, advise that in future Messrs. Johnson and Johnson's Kidney and Porous Plasters will be known as the "Red Chair" brand, instead of the "Red Cross."

Beecham's Pills.—Information has been received that certain people are endeavouring to dispose of a large line of spurious Beecham's Pills. So far, operations have been confined to Melbourne and suburbs, but possibly the country districts will be visited in due course.

Mr. A. J. Miller, Hobart, reports that the sales of Nazetha during the winter months exceeded his expectations. He has now placed on the market Nazetha pastilles, which have been added to the P.A.T.A. list.

Neurosus Pty. Ltd. has been registered under the Victorian Companies Act. Authorised capital, £1500, in £1 shares. The principal object of the company is to acquire as a going concern the business of manufacturers carried on by Lindsay H. Ballantyne and Alexander E. Stenhouse. First directors, A. E. Stenhouse and H. Ballantyne.

Market Report.

Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co. are in receipt of cable advices dated London September 8, advising the following quotations:—Iodides, 15 per cent. advance; Acetyl Salicyl, 45s.; Phenacetin, 35s.; Phenazone, 45s.; Cocaine, 14s. 6d.; Salol, 25s.; Caffiene, 25s.; Codeia, 22s.; Guaicol Carb., 50s.; Cod Liver Oil, at latest quotations, costs 20s. per gallon to land in Melbourne.

Notices.

Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd.

MEMBERS are notified that the Annual Subscription and Indemnity Premiums are due, and payable on or before 30th September, 1915. The Articles of Association provide that the Company is not liable for claims made on members who have not renewed their Indemnity Policies.

C. L. Butchers, Secretary.

Melbourne,
15th Sept., 1915.

Sigma Co. Ltd.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Company will be held on Tuesday, October 12th, 1915, and not on September 28, as previously intimated.

E. H. Lette, Secretary.

Final Pharmacy Class.

A SPECIAL CLASS for the December Final Examination is now in course of formation. Intending students are requested to forward their names as early as possible. The class will meet at the College of Pharmacy every Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. Fee, £3/13/6.

C. L. Butchers, Secretary.

Births & Deaths.

DEATH.

Owen.—On the 8th August, at the Dardanelles, Private John Stanley Owen, dearly loved younger son of Edwd. G. and Annie B. Owen, of 21 Victoria road, Camberwell, aged 23 years 6 months.

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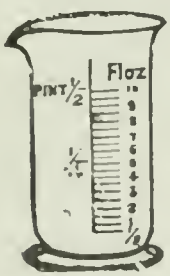

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NOTICES.

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BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA, 1914.

Candidates presenting themselves for the DECEMBER, 1915, Intermediate and Final Examinations will be required to possess a knowledge of the British Pharmacopoeia, 1914 (so far as it is applicable), and will be examined thereon in accordance with the requirements set out in the Examination Syllabus.

C. L. BURCHER, Registrar.

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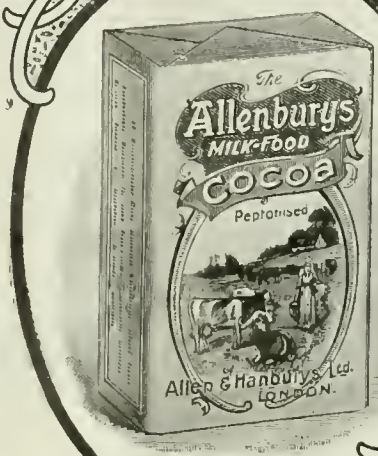

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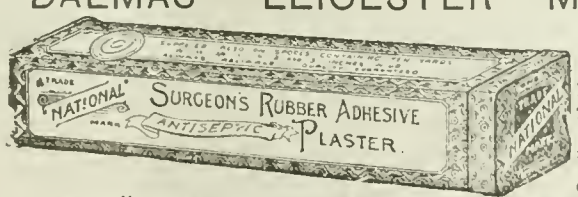

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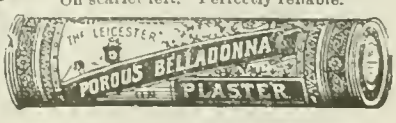

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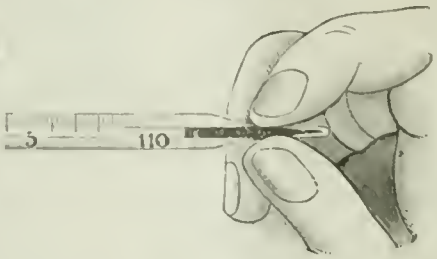

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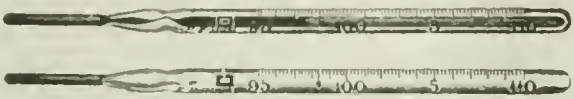

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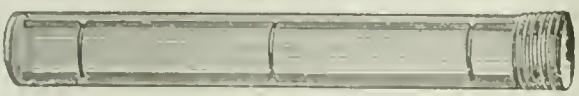

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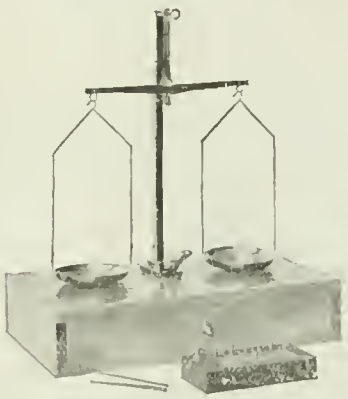

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THE NEXT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be held on 16th and 17th December, 1915. Authors for 1915 are Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto 2 and Caesar, De Bello Gallico, Book 5.

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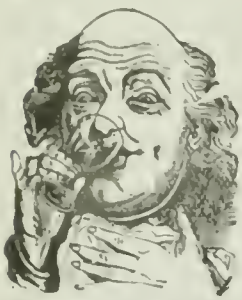

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Pharmacy Board Notices.

MEDICAL ACT 1890, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, 1st and 2nd December, 1915.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—Euclid, Books I. and II.

N.B.—The following propositions of Euclid are of secondary importance, and need not be studied for the Examination:—

Book I.—Propositions 2, 7 (if Prop. 8 is proved by the method independent of 7, which is given in all modern text-books), 24, and 25.

Book II.—Propositions 6, 8, 10.

The two Corollaries to Prop. 32, Book I., will be treated as propositions.

TIME-TABLE.

FIRST DAY.

Latin	..	10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Arithmetic	..	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SECOND DAY.

English	...	9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Algebra	...	12.30 p.m. to 2.20 p.m.
Euclid	...	3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

TEXT BOOKS.

The following text books are recommended by the Examiner:—

LATIN.—Accidence, syntax and composition. Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar. Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.

ENGLISH.—Accidence, syntax, and analysis. Any good school treatise, such as Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.

ARITHMETIC.—Any good school treatise.

ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. Longman's Junior School Algebra will be found a serviceable book.

Geometry.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Books I. and II. The edition by Hall and Stevens, Smith and Bryant, A. E. Layng or R. Deakin (University Tutorial Series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

PASS STANDARD.

THE marks for a pass in any of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary Examination shall not be less than 50 per cent. of the maximum marks of 100, and an aggregate of 60 per cent. in all the subjects.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK, JUNE.

The Text Book in English for September and December, 1915, and March and June, 1916, will be:

A Victorian Anthology (M. P. Hansen.) Part I.

To be memorised—

Tennyson—*Three Songs* and *Crossing the Bar*
Browning—*Prospice*.
Kipling—*Flag of England*.
Henley—*England*.
Newbolt—*Clifton Chapel*.
Cuthbertson—*Sunrise*.

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

REPORTS ON PAPERS.

REGULATION 57.—Any candidate who desires a report on any of the written papers submitted by him at any examination shall, within fourteen days of the publication of the results of such examination, lodge with the Registrar an application for a report on such papers, and shall pay the following fees:—

Preliminary Examination: 10/6 for any or all of such papers.

Intermediate or Final Examination: 10/6 for each paper to be reported on.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th December, 1915. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th December, 1915.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Section 88, Sub-division 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III. must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

C. L. BUTCHERS, Registrar.

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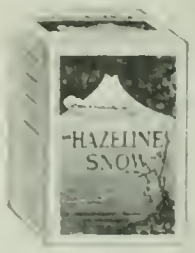

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